

10/14/96

Monday October 14 1996

Abu Dhabi D 8.50	Croatia D 4.00	Norway NK 1.50
Amman J 1.20	Hong Kong HK\$ 25	Oman OR 1.00
Antananarivo M 1.50	Indonesia IN 1.50	Poland PL 1.70
Bangkok B 1.50	Italy I 1.50	Portugal P 2.40
Beijing B 1.50	Japan J 1.50	Qatar Q 1.50
Bombay B 1.50	Korea S 1.50	Romania R 2.00
Buenos Aires A 1.50	Malaysia M 1.50	Saudi Arabia S 1.50
Calcutta C 1.50	Maldives M 1.50	Sri Lanka L 1.50
Cairo C 1.50	Malta M 1.50	Singapore S 1.50
Cardiff C 1.50	Mexico M 1.50	South Africa S 1.50
Chennai C 1.50	Morocco M 1.50	Sweden S 1.50
Colombo C 1.50	Nepal N 1.50	Switzerland S 1.50
Dakar D 1.50	Netherlands G 1.00	Taiwan T 1.50
Damascus D 1.50	Norway N 1.50	Thailand T 1.50
Dhaka D 1.50	Oman O 1.50	Turkey T 1.50
Dubai D 1.50	Pakistan P 1.50	Ukraine U 1.50
Geneva G 1.50	Peru P 1.50	USA US\$ 2.75
Hankou H 1.50	Philippines P 1.50	
Hanoi H 1.50	Poland P 1.50	
Hong Kong HK\$ 25	Portugal P 1.50	
India IN 1.50	Romania R 1.50	
Jakarta J 1.50	Saudi Arabia S 1.50	
Jerusalem J 1.50	Singapore S 1.50	
Johannesburg J 1.50	South Africa S 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	Sweden S 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	Switzerland S 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	Taiwan T 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	Thailand T 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	Turkey T 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	Ukraine U 1.50	
Kuala Lumpur L 1.50	USA US\$ 2.75	

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

46,683

Mother Teresa's mission under attack

Too much prayer, not enough care

G2 with European weather



Sport

Alex Ferguson's escape to Istanbul

This section page 15

Media

Women in TV: overworked and undervalued

G2 pages 7/9

Graham's son ascendant in Japan

Hill finds winning world formula at last

Richard Williams

AT THE end of a season in which he endured the most public sacking since Margaret Thatcher's eviction from Downing Street, Damon Hill yesterday followed his late father into the record books by winning the Formula One drivers' world championship.

The 36-year-old Hill secured the title in the most emphatic manner possible, leading the Japanese grand prix from start to finish. It was his eighth win in the season's 16 races, giving him a 19-point margin over his Williams-Renault team-mate Jacques Villeneuve and putting an end to four years in which his fortunes have fluctuated between triumph and disaster, with not much in between.

In the preceding two seasons he was beaten to the championship by Michael Schumacher, and only a few weeks ago, just as his big lead in this season's championship was starting to dwindle, he suffered a further blow to his confidence when he learned that his team had engaged another driver to replace him next year.

Two weeks ago Hill announced that he would drive in 1997 for the TWR Arrows-Yamaha team, which has yet to win a race but will pay him \$5 million for the season.

He went into yesterday's final round knowing he needed only one point for the title while the 25-year-old Villeneuve, in his first season in Formula One, needed the 10 victory points plus Hill's failure to finish in the top six.

Both men started from the front row of the grid but Hill got away cleanly while Villeneuve spun his wheels and dropped to sixth by the time they reached the first corner. The Canadian had clawed his way back to fourth when, towards the end of the race, his right-hand rear wheel and tyre came off.

After taking the chequered flag, Hill said he would dedicate the race victory — his 21st in 67 starts — to the Williams-Renault team, "but if



Damon Hill is congratulated by his wife Georgie after winning the world championship in Japan. PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN PRYDE

you don't mind I'll take the championship myself!"

He had given the car a final ear-bursting blip of the throttle when he returned to the pits before emerging from the cockpit to embrace his wife Georgie.

"I can hardly wait to get back to my children, but it is especially Georgie I would like to thank for this championship," Hill said. "She has been a tremendous strength to me all the time I have been racing in Formula One."

His father Graham won the championship in 1993 and 1996, but died in a light plane crash near his home at Etstree, Hertfordshire, in 1995, when Damon was 15. His son becomes the eighth British driver to win the title

since its inception in 1950. "This is a terrific feeling for me," he said. "It is a tremendous relief to have finally won it after all the anxieties and the sleepless nights."

A place in history, page 16

Defection puts heat on Major

Michael White Political Editor

JOHN Major will today face mounting political and parliamentary pressure to widen the scope of fresh sleaze-dominated investigations in the wake of the damaging defection of the Independent Conservative MP, Peter Thurnham, to the Liberal Democrats.

The Labour and Liberal Democrat chief whips, Donald Dewar and Archie Kirkwood, will combine forces to urge the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, to ensure that allegations that junior minister David Willetts tried to influence the Commons privileges committee are properly examined alongside unpublished evidence in Neil Hamilton's aborted libel suit against the Guardian.

As MPs headed back to Westminster last night after the summer recess, Mr Thurnham twisted the knife by claiming the Conservative Party chairman, Brian Mawhinney, had hinted at a knighthood if he behaved himself, a charge which Tory officials denied.

"Brian Mawhinney saw me in the lobby and said there were ways in which the party could look after people and it was pretty clear this was the kind of thing he was talking about," he said. "It is a tremendous relief to have finally won it after all the anxieties and the sleepless nights."

With last week's Tory conference unity looking distinctly ragged, rightwing MP Teresa Gorman fended off a planning to defect to the UK Independence Party, and John Carlisle denied plans to defect to Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party. Loyalists took their cue from Michael Heseltine's charge of "cynical" manoeuvring by Mr Thurnham.

Unabashed, the MP for Bolton accused Mr Major of making matters worse by "attempting to seek compromise which actually forces the



"Mawhinney said there were ways in which the party could look after people [i.e. a knighthood] but I said I wasn't interested"

Peter Thurnham

wings of the party further apart. It's actually creating disunity by not adopting a stronger leadership style."

He also reiterated his growing dismay at the way ministers have handled successive problems of sleaze or misuse of ministerial power since the Scott and Nolan inquiries prompted him to resign the party whip in February.

At a press conference with Faddy Ashdown, he said he was disturbed by the allegations and "the failure of the Government to have them investigated properly". He will seek an interview to express his concern to the Speaker today.

He asked what his constituents would think had he gone into a store "and signed for goods on someone else's account because I'd asked questions in the House. It's beyond belief."

Mr Ashdown and Tony Blair have called for an independent judicial investigation under the 1921 Tribunals of

Inquiry Act. They did so on the grounds that the parliamentary commissioner for standards, Sir Gordon Downey, lacks the power or the staff to resolve the complexities of the Hamilton-Guardian controversy or the memo written by Mr Willetts after talking to then chairman of the privileges committee, Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith.

Mr Major reacted by promising Sir Gordon more staff if needed. Today the two chief whips are expected to call for wider powers to allow full investigation.

Two separate issues have emerged. Unless MPs can force a change, Sir Gordon will examine the Hamilton case under the standards heading and report to the new standards and privileges committee, chaired by the Leader of the Commons, Tony Newton.

Sleaze row was final straw, page 4; Death and defection, page 9

Mellor backs total handgun ban

Ministers warned against fudge on Cullen's Dunblane report as 'public expect severe action'

Alan Travis and Michael White

THE former Tory cabinet minister, David Mellor, today warns the Government that the public is expecting severe action following the Dunblane massacre and would not tolerate anything short of a ban on the private ownership of handguns.

There is widespread speculation that the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, will stop well short of such a ban when he responds to the official inquiry report into the Dunblane massacre, probably on Wednesday.

His proposal is likely to be that guns will have to be held in secure stores at Britain's 2,000 legal gun clubs. At pres-

ent the 57,000 legal handgun owners mostly keep their 200,000 weapons at home. Legislation is expected to reach the statute book before Christmas.

Mr Mellor, a former Home Office minister, writing in today's Guardian, says the Government was wrong to waste months by asking a judge to "do their dirty work" in deciding how far the gun control laws should be reformed in the aftermath of Dunblane. "That should have been a task the Cabinet embarked upon straightaway."

"When will they learn not to give politicians' work to lawyers? Even after Scott and Nolan they are incorrigible. Cullen was asked not merely to determine what went wrong in Hamilton's case — which is a judge's job — but

to tell us what the policy on handguns should be — which is not. Why bother to have a government?" argues Mr Mellor.

Lord Cullen, who conducted the inquiry into the shooting of the 16 school children and their teacher in March, will hand his final 200-page report to ministers today.

It will also recommend changes in the law on school security and the vetting of those who work with children.

Mr Mellor says he fears that the stage will be set for "a stitch-up" between the two main parties' front benches, with Labour's George Robertson describing a ban on home possession of handguns as the party's bottom line.

He cites a case last week in which a gun club safety officer was suspended after ammunition was discovered at the school where he works. Police later found six hand guns, three rifles and two shotguns at his mother's

home. Mr Mellor says such people will be charged with the security of Britain's handguns in future.

The MP for Putney argues that Labour was right to move swiftly into the ground and that the Government foolishly abandoned and hopes it will not now join Michael Howard in the "muddled middle of the argument".

He warns that many MPs will vote for a compromise acceptable to the gun lobby because although the public favours a total ban it will not be the decisive issue, as it will be for gun club members, when they vote.

"We must disabuse our MPs of that notion," he writes.

Though ministers, officials and Tory staffers spent the weekend telling the media their bottom line is a ban on handguns being held in private homes, they are adamant that they will not know Lord Cullen's verdict until today.

David Mellor, page 9

Banking secrets lost in space

Dan Atkinson

FRAUDSTERS and money-launderers, facing greater scrutiny in traditional offshore havens, will soon be shifting their funds to satellite banks in space, a London University professor has warned.

Ian Angell, of the London School of Economics, said "off-planet banking" is the next technological step.

Not only criminals but ordinary people may prefer to bank in space. Once satellite dishes are reduced in size sufficiently to allow them to be installed on desk-tops, depositors will be able to stay in constant contact with their banks.

The banks would be fully automated, and would probably issue their own currencies. No nation would have jurisdiction over them, although Prof Angell — an

expert on technology and information — said attempted reprisals against persons on Earth could resemble action against pirate radio stations in the 1960s.

But a source at the Bank for International Settlements in Basel, Switzerland — the central bankers' central bank — said the absence of any firm rules or legal foundation for such a bank's operation would discourage its use.

Hitherto, offshore banking centres — usually small island states — have provided havens for the proceeds of fraud. But in recent years, many have bowed to pressure to clean up their acts.

Prof Angell said the offshore phenomenon was an intermediate phase brought about by old technology. Satellite communications would allow people to put their funds into orbit, beyond the reach of tax authorities or police.

Britain The Irish PUK... 5	World News The Irish PUK... 6	Finance Taxes could rise to 50 per cent for... 11	Sport The US held firm yesterday to win the... 13	Comment and Letters Obituaries 10 G2 Crossword 15; Weather 16; Radio 16; TV 16
-----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The Guardian International & The Observer Travel Bag



This classic navy travel bag branded with the Guardian International and Observer logo is constructed from a water resistant, durable PVC. The many shoulder features include a heavy duty shoulder strap, carry handle and double ended zipper compartments. (60x30x25cm)

To place your order please fill in the form below and send it to: The Guardian International/Observer Travel Bag Offer, PO Box 335, Buntingford, Cambs CB22 2NA, UK with a cheque or money order for the full amount or fill in your Visa/Mastercard details.

Please send me... Guardian International/Observer Travel Bag/s £50.00; cost £... I enclose a cheque/money order for the sum of £... or please debit my Visa/Mastercard account.

Card No:

Expiry date: Signature:

Name:

Address:

Postcode: Country:

Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.



Blair takes a fleeting look behind the curtain

If the Labour leader was looking for his South African visit to demonstrate that he is a global leader he was disappointed, but he managed to smile at the last

Monday sketch



Ruairidh Nicoll

TONY Blair couldn't help but look nervous. He had just been introduced to a small girl — only minutes old — who had responded to his enthusiastic grin with clenched fists and a face that said volumes about awakening into this world. Now he was facing a blue curtain which was about to be torn aside by a keen looking nurse. Behind it, we all knew, could only be the exhausted mother.

The Labour leader looked across the room. Among the small crowd of press and health clinic staff stood his wife, Cherie. From a look it was obvious that she wanted nothing to do with this situation, and so he turned back as the curtain was opened. The rest of us were deprived of the vision which

unfolded beyond, but we could see Blair. His face suddenly collapsed in embarrassment, only to be matched by his frantic efforts to get the staff to pull the curtain back while simultaneously smiling and waving until the bed's occupant disappeared from sight. A man who had been watching peered at the child and then turned to Blair. "What a way to come into the world," he said. Bambi had arrived in Bantuland. Blair had flown into a stormy Cape Town on Friday on the rather spurious pretext of giving a speech to an organisation called the Commonwealth Press Union. Hardly had he touched the ground before he was mugged for the cameras beside Nelson Mandela. In a triumphant 40-minute meeting he convinced the president that it would be a grand idea for a team of football players, drawn from England's Premier League, to visit South Africa. The horribly busy Mandela quickly agreed and then handed it on to his heavy smoking minister of sport. If Blair was looking for publicity that would show him to be a global statesman he was to be disappointed. One of the most important court cases in South Africa, the trial of the former defence minister, Magnus Malan, and 15 others

accused of the 1989 massacre of 13 men, women and children in KwaZulu Natal, ended in an acquittal and world-wide headlines which drowned out his little jaunt. A trip to a wine bar in a suburb nicknamed Little Islington by the locals was practically ignored. But despite all, Blair crashed on with his schedule, side-stepping the trauma of a strike by South African Airline's ground crew to arrive in Joburg for a lunchtime braai (or barbecue) on Saturday followed by a trip to the most convenient local heliport. Alexandra, called Alexandria by the dark forces travelling with Blair, is the most violent and frightening of the former townships in or near Johannesburg. It is also hard to get to. Blair arrived outside the brightly coloured buildings of the Alexandra Health Clinic preceded by a hard-core group of heavies belonging to the Gauteng state premier, Toyko Sexwale. They leapt from the car shouting walkie-talkies into their belts and dispersing among the little reception,



Mr Blair at a barbecue with Toyko Sexwale (centre), Gauteng premier. PHOTOGRAPH: JUDA ROSENWA

many of whom presumably had sworn the Hippocratic Oath. Blair emerged, hand already shaking, and was led into the building. He sat down with one of the workers and asked what the biggest problem they faced here was. She

didn't understand. Blair tried again. "Sexually transmitted diseases," she said hopefully. "The British Aid Project which was operating at the clinic seemed full of nice middle-class ladies who fussed over Cherie. "Oh, where is Mrs Blair?" asked one, panick-

ing. "Oh, over there," said another. "Oh, I thought we'd lost her," said the first which resulted in a group giggle. Sir Anthony Reeve, the outgoing British High Commissioner, followed the party wearing a sporty blazer and looking bored. "So you must be nearly packed up?" I asked conversationally. "Are you looking for a domestic angle?" he replied, cold eyes flashing. Reeve is a brilliant diplomat but he hates this sort of thing. The clinic, right on the edge of Alexandra, has to deal with the brunt of poverty and sex. Many of the women who sat around had just given birth, and were preparing to return to the shanty huts with their newborn. Blair looked in on a couple of children who were jaundiced and then came outside and sat beside one of the mothers. She, of course, had no idea who this smiley man was and Blair's questions were greeted with incomprehension. Realising he was not getting far, the opposition leader stood up again and wandered off. The mother quickly looked into the tiny cubicle to make sure he hadn't stolen her child. While Cherie was telling the staff that things were not much better in Britain, the backs were asking Blair's staff if it was really true that the party would be taking a trip through the township itself. This was exciting stuff: few white Joburgers ever enter the place and reporters go there only when absolutely necessary. Yes, it seemed, Blair would go in but the car would not stop. The cameramen groaned.

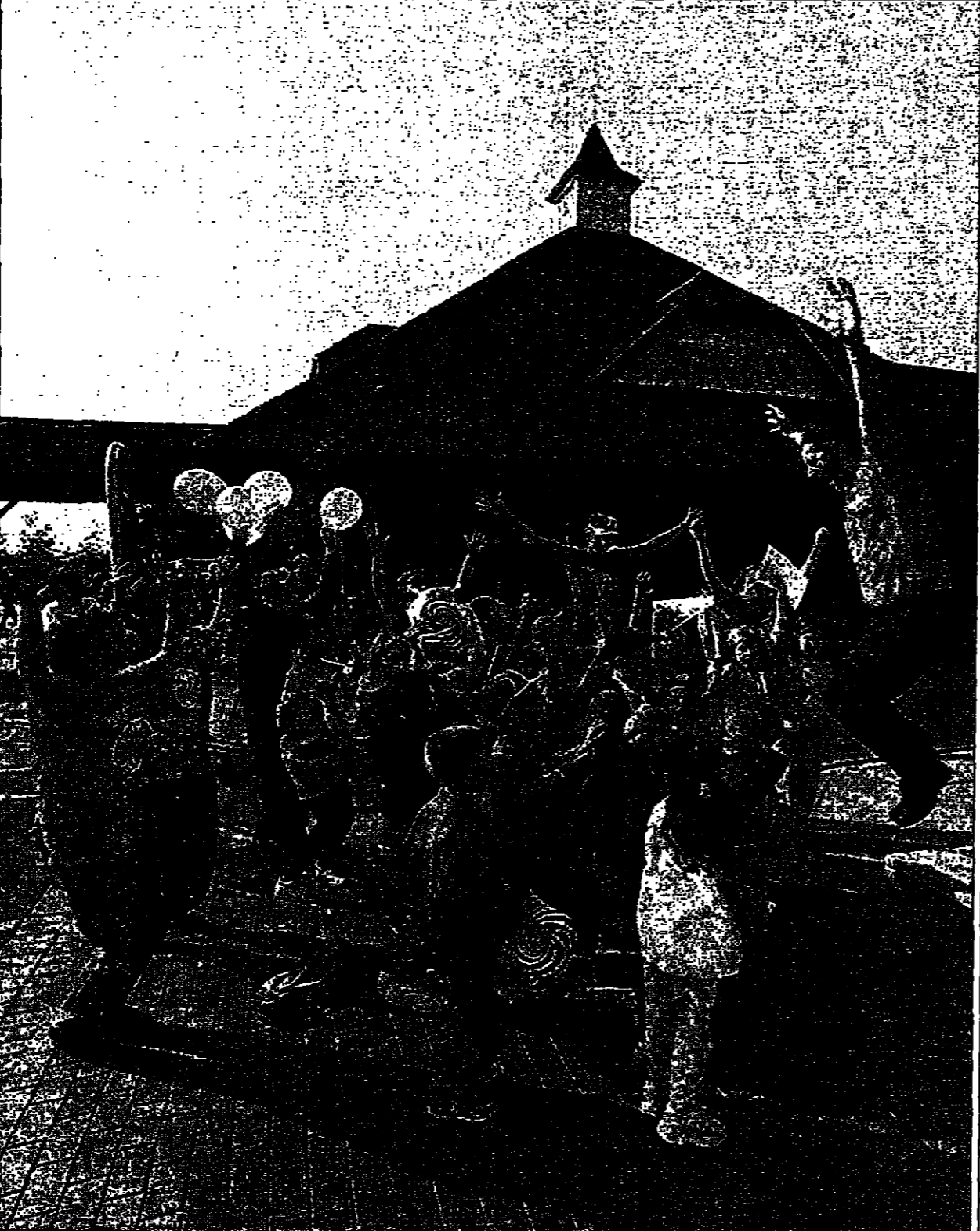
Reemerging into the sun the group began to huddle around a beaten up motorbike. In stepped Blair, crushed among the clinic's staff. The mothers gazed the engines of their BMWs. The reporters jumped into their Golfs and the conveyer moved on. Blair turned along the edge of the township and then passed along a dusty track which brought it to the top of a street that runs the length of the shanty town. Hazard lights began to flash, horns to sound, and life a squadron taking off from an aircraft carrier about 10 cars accelerated quickly down the road. One of the things about townships is that pedestrians refuse to be towed by cars, and so there was general outrage as this blaring, flashing mass screamed past. The people who were forced to leap to safety looking shocked in the rising dust. It was beginning to look as if the ministers were trying to drum up business for the clinic. The desolation of the broken huts, the grim blacks that used to house the migrant labourers, and a well attended flash. But Tony had done it and made it through safely. Who could argue that this man does not have the common touch?

Loaves, fishes and discount beans on offer at supermarket

Tesco's Sunday school special

Alex Bellis

THEIR aisles are amply stocked with bread and wine. They have no problems with Sunday attendance and they unite families in a common cause. It was surely inevitable that supermarkets would eventually offer religious instruction as well as discount tins of baked beans. Giving a new meaning to the phrase customer service, 25 Kent children yesterday attended a Sunday school at the local Tesco. "If people aren't going to go to church, we need to bring church to where people are," said Captain David Ramsay of the Salvation Army, which is organising the initiative at Grove Green, Maidstone, Kent. The hour-long service offers a truce between God and Mammon. Captain Ramsay said: "It is not so much a contradiction as a partnership. "We are about family. We are interested in reviving the profile of family. Supermarkets are about families too. They bring families to shop." Endorsing Sunday trading by having a religious service in a store may offend some believers although the Salvation Army has a tradition of going to where people are rather than waiting for them to come. "We oppose Sunday trading," said Captain Ramsay. "However, the realism is that Sunday trading is here to stay. There is nothing I can do as an individual about that, but at least I can get alongside some of the people and bring them the Gospel. There is no point in burying our heads." Andrew Coker, Tesco corporate communications manager, said the idea was mooted at its annual meeting in June. A Salvation Army official read about it and approached the store.



Bill Heeley leading a group of children in Sunday school activities in Maidstone, Kent. PHOTOGRAPH: MALCOLM GANDERTON

"I have spoken to a lot of people and they don't think there is anything religious about it. For us it is a matter of giving the customer choice. If it is a success we would hope to do it at other stores."

It is also about good marketing. Parents taking their children to the service were using the opportunity for an indulgent shop. "We've just spent more than we would have normally," said John and

Linda Rogers, waiting to pick up their daughter Samantha. He said the idea was a good one. The supermarket was closer than the church for a start. There was also the issue

of credibility. "I don't think you'd get my daughter sitting in some cold dark church hall on a Sunday morning. But to come to Tesco's and stand around the shop is something different."

Cracks emerge in Major's Euro truce

Michael White Political Editor

JOHAN Major's achievement in securing unity on Europe at last week's Conservative Party conference came under immediate strain yesterday when Sir Teddy Taylor, the veteran anti-European MP, described Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party as "a bright new party" which could be "very significant". Like his fellow Eurosceptic MP, John Redwood, last week, Sir Teddy did not tell people to vote for Sir James. But he revealed a divided loyalty: "I'm almost terrified of getting in the position of being the next newspaper headline, of saying, 'Tory MP says vote against my colleagues'." "I don't want to get involved in that, but it's up to every voter to do what they think is right." Speaking on BBC1's On the Record, Sir Teddy — an anti-European for 30 years and MP for Southend East — contradicted the official line when he predicted that Sir James's party could do well. "If you have a bright new

party with a new idea which is significant and important, my feeling is that, as the election campaign starts, I think it could go 'boom'. It could have lift-off and be very significant indeed." He hoped its impact would persuade both sides to stage a referendum. On the same programme, Sir James said Michael Heseltine's job that he could help elect Labour and then retreat overseas was a "trivial point". As to spending his way to power, "the fundamental question, if you analyse it, is: am I using my wealth to bend the normal democratic process? The answer is exactly the opposite." "The European Commission spends over £200 million per annum in propaganda so as to bend the democratic process. It is pure propaganda. It has stifled the debate in the country so that we were giving up our sovereignty by default without a debate. Now, it needed a man with money to be able not to level the playing field but to start to put some balance into it." To the suggestion that he was trying to buy power, Sir James replied: "Who for? Not for me. I'll resign the day we

have a referendum. The party will dissolve. It's in the statutes. Who am I trying to buy power for? I'm trying to put money in? For you, to be able to vote on whether or not your nation continues." After Mr Major's success in pulling his party behind the Cabinet's compromise over a single currency — no decision until after the General Election — MPs and activists are watching to see if the Bournemouth truce will hold. Reports that he had told those urging him to appear before the European Parliament to "go and boil their heads" will please the sceptics. Sir James's party conference in Brighton next week will increase pressure. Yesterday he revealed he has devised a points system to decide which MPs to oppose on election day. Such talk will reinforce claims that Sir James is not a political party but a rich man's whim, despite his description of it as a party of "free spirits, a large number of free men and women, a multiplicity of views".

Leader comment, page 5
Death and defection won't defeat Tories, page 9

France again faces winter of discontent over job cuts

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

FRANCE braced itself for a harsh winter of industrial discontent yesterday, with 30,000 workers from armaments industries marching through Paris over the weekend in advance of crippling strikes planned for Thursday. Yesterday's march — which echoed last year's industrial strike — crammed the streets of the capital. The marchers were protesting against government proposals to close arms factories and shipyards. Thursday's planned action across France is backed by civil servants, transport workers, defence industry workers and doctors. With 10 trade unions calling for stoppages, the Socialist Party has appointed Harlem Désir, a former anti-racism campaigner, to coordinate "social action". He said: "The anger is just as strong as it was in November and December last year. Even though the economic climate is poor, workers are not resigned to accepting it." "The public sector is critical of continued plans for job cuts as France's prime minister, Alain Juppé, attempts to streamline public spending and cut the deficit ahead of the European monetary union. While planned defence cuts are expected to cause 70,000 layoffs over the next four years, the growing protest movement by armaments workers has gone largely unnoticed, having been limited to provincial towns. Many observers believe that the poor health of France's economy, including 12.5 per cent unemployment, militates against mass action. Dunkerque diary, page 9

Classic metal misfits spit out decibels of defiance at the venue from hell

Review

Adam Sweeting

ALTHOUGH they have become one of the most enormous acts on the planet, trampling all records for album sales and concert grosses, Metallica have managed to cling to their underground roots. In their 15-year career, they have risen from cult status with the Music For Nations label, and helped to invent that most user-unfriendly of

genres: speed-metal. In the process, they have built their fan-base from the ground upwards, relying on remorseless touring and shattering decibels rather than flashy videos or calculated hit singles. They have learned a thing or two from touring the hyper-domes of their American homeland. In an effort to overcome the yawning gulf between the band and the fans at outsized gigs, Metallica invented the "Snake Pit", an on-stage enclosure in which punters could slam-dance within feet of the musicians. This time, they are introducing a complicated sound-and-lights concept. Split into two separate stages in the centre of

the auditorium, it allows them to pop up at all points of the compass to address different sections of the crowd. Even drummer Lars Ulrich has two kits to choose from. Just throw in a barrage of flash-bombs and flames shooting up through the stage, plus steel lighting-gantries that look like carnivorous insects about to prey on the band members, and you could almost forget you were in a venue from hell. But the gadgetry is window-dressing. If there's a simple reason for Metallica's massive success, it's that they have remained resolutely themselves. The bigger they have grown, the more stub-

bly defiant they have become. For this big London appearance, singer-songwriter-guitarist James Hetfield — one of the world's wealthiest rock 'n' rollers — took the stage in scruffy black jeans and biker boots, spatting with mud. With his moustache and feral leer, Hetfield looks like the kind of guy who gets up at dawn to hunt his own breakfast with a Bowie knife. Metallica are classic misfits, and their pulverising chords and anguished, semi-literate lyrics are their revenge on a world that wished they'd go away. In their two-hours-plus show, the more accessible material (relatively speaking)

from their last two discs is mixed up with the traumatic time changes and whiplash riffing from early albums such as Kill 'Em All and Ride the Lightning. If Hetfield indulges in something ballad-like like Nothing Else Matters, there's always a payoff in megawattage from guitarist Kirk Hammett and scowling bassist Jason Newsted. The fake "emergency" at the end of Enter Sandman was a crass miscalculation — with roadies pretending to fall out of the rafters and a blazing stuntman running across the stage. But poor taste is the least of Metallica's worries. There is a noise that echoes round the world.

What's the difference between us and other French teachers?

One to one or group tuition.

We offer

For a brochure and further advice call Elisabeth Michau 0171 723 0020.

business class.

Alliance Française

Alliance Française de Londres, 1 Dorset Square, London NW1 6PL. Sponsored by the French Government. Registered charity no 276622.

The shadow of...

Widow's peace to men of war in Ulster

World war...

The shadow of the gunmen



'I can't see what more deaths are going to achieve apart from wrecking lives and leaving children without fathers'

Widow's plea for peace to the men of war in Ulster

David Sharrock, Ireland Correspondent

SADIE McGoldrick is rocking her 10-day-old baby in a living room festooned with congratulatory cards, flowers and balloons.

Four months ago Michael McGoldrick was murdered by loyalist paramilitaries in the most callous of circumstances.

The main loyalist groups denied responsibility, and their ceasefire held. But the UVF in Belfast expelled a number of members in Portadown, the town near Lurgan where Mr McGoldrick, his pregnant wife Sadie and their seven-year-old daughter, Emma, lived.

The family is still there, minus the husband and father, a terrible reminder of the horror and grief which awaits every household in Northern Ireland if the men of war choose to pitch the province back into full-scale violence.

Sadie has her small bundle of consolation: Andrew Michael. "Those were the names his daddy picked," says Sadie. "He said there were too many Michael McGoldricks already and then Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland."

Michael was born and raised in Glasgow's Gorbals and met Sadie in Lurgan 12 years ago on one of his frequent family visits to Ulster. When they married and decided to settle in Northern Ireland, his parents, originally from there, decided to follow them back.

They were happy, Michael studying English and politics at Queens University in Belfast, planning a new career as a teacher. They were happier still when Sadie fell pregnant again this year. "Michael always said a boy would be the icing on his cake."

Then it happened, one Sunday evening in Lurgan. He only worked weekends as a taxi driver and was on the point of giving it up, worried about Sadie on her own at night.

The week before he died he was decorating the baby's room. Now I'm glad because everything Andrew's going into Michael had seen."

She can remember every detail of the day he died, how the Sunday dinner table had been dominated by Michael's promise to take Emma to see Walt Disney's Hunchback of Notre Dame.

One day they would all go to Disneyworld together and he had even painted a jar for Emma to begin collecting all her spare change for the trip, labelled "Emma's Disney money".

The previous week Michael had been awarded a second-class honours degree at Queens. There was so much to feel good about, even if there was a bit of local trouble because of the Orange parade at Drumcree, a few miles away.

"I was always worried about him but he never was. He'd say 'sure, who'd want to hurt a big daft Scotch fella?'"

At seven in the morning she finally got a message on her husband's mobile phone saying it was switched off. "That must have been when the police found him..."

"I knew something had happened and my blood sort of ran cold. When I finally got the confirmation at 9am instinct told me, I didn't really need it confirmed. You just know it. My first thought was 'God, he wasn't even Irish'."

He had the broadest Scottish accent and always talked to everybody even if they didn't talk back.

At his funeral Michael's father movingly told his killers that he forgave them. "Bury your pride," he told the paramilitaries, politicians and Orangemen. Sadie says she cannot feel the same way. "All I felt then was this awful loss. It didn't matter to me why they did it. The fact was he was gone and nothing was going to bring him back. I have no hatred. I have anger, it's only natural. But when they took Michael's life they took mine as well because everything we did, we did together."

With a baby newly born into Northern Ireland at a moment when all hope seems to have drained away and the gunmen and bombers on both sides stand ready to resume their futile war, Sadie wants them to stop and reflect.

"If they could only see the devastation that they leave behind and the lives that they wreck, they must never have known love to be able to destroy someone's life and take away love. Michael's death has altered nothing. I can't see at all what it has achieved for the people who did it."

"And I honestly can't see what any more deaths are going to achieve apart from wrecking people's lives and breaking up homes and leaving children without their fathers."

The living room has Michael's graduation photographs on the wall and his degree certificate to remind



Sadie McGoldrick: 'I have no hatred. I have anger, it's only natural'. Top left, Michael McGoldrick PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL FAITH

Andrew of the father he never knew. For Emma it will be more difficult. "There are times she'll not leave my side and she's watching my face and then she's saying 'mummy, don't be crying. She'll be wiping away my tears and saying 'mummy, I know it's hard but you mustn't cry. She shouldn't be drying her mummy's tears, it's just so cruel'."

The Disney jar has lost its magnetic pull. "When I said to her, what do you think about going to Disneyworld, shall we go? She said no, not now, without Daddy. Michael loved children. One time he picked Emma out of her bed even though she was asleep and took her outside to show her the stars. And Emma said to me 'I'll have to remember to tell my baby brother all the things that my daddy told me'."

Everywhere she turns Sadie is reminded of her loss. "You never get over it, it's just a matter of learning how best you can live with it. But it's frightening that there could be more people who will have to go through this."

Hospital in cash crisis bars many elderly

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

A HOSPITAL has closed its doors to emergency patients over the age of 75 from half its local area in an attempt to survive a "crisis" in its services.

Hillingdon hospital, in west London, has told family doctors in north Hillingdon that it cannot accept emergency referrals of elderly patients. The move is the most drastic measure taken in the health service as hospitals prepare for what is widely predicted to be a difficult winter.

Mitch Garsin, who chairs the Hillingdon local medical committee, representing the area's general practitioners, said: "It's looking as though this is going to be an extremely bad winter for Hillingdon, as GPs try to get their patients into beds."

The development comes days after leaders of Britain's medical consultants warned of hospital services coming "close to collapse". The Prime Minister promised to continue above-inflation NHS funding rises, but offered no extra money this year.

Hillingdon hospital trust says its ability to provide acute care has been hit by soaring demand and difficulty in discharging elderly patients.

Hospitals cannot send patients home until social services departments have assessed their needs and arranged services. The problem has been compounded, the letter says, by the unexpectedly high number of admissions of elderly patients from north Hillingdon.

Mount Vernon hospital, in nearby Northwood, helps serve north Hillingdon, but lost its full-scale casualty department in April. Hillingdon hospital says that although this should not have affected elderly care services, it has since been admitting elderly patients from the northern area in "disproportionately high numbers".

Philip Brown, the trust's chief executive, said in the letter these were the patients who took the longest to discharge due to the crisis in

social services funding putting a huge strain on the rest of the services.

The hospital stopped accepting GP referrals last Tuesday for emergency admission of patients aged over 75 who are residents of Ruislip, Eastcote, Northwood and Harefield.

Many elderly patients are clinically ready for discharge but awaiting community care arrangements. Mr Brown told the Guardian that 30-35 of his hospital's 300 acute beds were blocked in this way.

The rate of discharges cleared by social services had been almost four times as high last year as now, Mr Brown said. "We are talking to both social services and the health authority about how we can deal with this situation of acute beds being unavailable to support our accident and emergency department."

The partial bar on over-75s was regretted and would be lifted as soon as possible. Meanwhile, "if somebody arrives at our door, we are certainly not going to turn them away."

The hospital's move has brought an angry response from Hillingdon social services, which claims the community care issue is being used as a smokescreen for NHS problems. Dawn Warwick, acting social services director, said: "We refuse to be blamed for the difficulties Hillingdon hospital finds itself in."

The real issues were the closure of Mount Vernon's accident and emergency department and a cut in hospital bed numbers.

To ease the difficulties, social services had last week opened extra beds in its own residential homes and had arranged the discharge of seven elderly patients "over and above our usual quota", Ms Warwick said.

David Panter, chief executive of Hillingdon health authority, said: "We are obviously unhappy about the situation, but we understand the pressures on the hospital. We cannot stress too much that we are trying to solve the problems."

"We are confident that patients who require emergency admission will receive the care they need, even though it may not be at Hillingdon."

World warning over antibiotics

Helen Nowicka

THE worldwide increase in human resistance to antibiotic drugs is causing a "public health problem of potentially crisis proportions", doctors from more than 20 countries will hear next week.

A meeting of the World Medical Association is to discuss limiting the availability of antibiotics to counter the growing problem of resistant "superbugs".

The problem stems from over-prescribing antibiotics, their widespread use in farming as feed additives to ensure animals gain weight, and

their availability in some countries without a prescription.

In a motion to be debated at the WMA conference in South Africa, the American Medical Association calls for research into the use of the drugs and for wider public education about their effects. The World Health Organisation and individual governments are asked to take a more active monitoring role.

The paper is supported by the British Medical Association, whose chairman, Dr Sandy Macara, described the growing resistance as "a health problem. There is a real prospect that the majority of our antibiotics could become

impotent for the purposes on which we have relied upon them for 40 years," he said.

"It is dangerous to British people because it is happening here to some extent. We are not as careful as we ought to be in using antibiotics, although on the whole we are pretty good at it and are educated about the risks."

Doctors in Gloucester believe they have found evidence of a link between meningitis and the overuse of antibiotics after comparing prescribing patterns in areas of high and low incidence of the disease.

In towns with meningitis clusters, where the disease was nine times more common than in low incidence communities, they found almost 50 per cent more prescriptions for antibiotics.

Dr Macara said he agreed with the doctors' findings. "I would be surprised if it were otherwise. I am not in any doubt."

Last winter saw the worst outbreak of meningitis in Britain for 20 years, with the Office for National Statistics recording 835 cases between October and March. Another bad winter is forecast.

A spokesman for the Department of Health said there was no evidence of an impending crisis with antibiotic usage in Britain, adding: "People should be reassured."

Actress Beryl Reid dies, aged 76

By Victoria Clark

ONE of Britain's finest and most versatile actresses, Beryl Reid, died in hospital early yesterday aged 76.

A victim of osteoporosis, she had recently undergone an operation on her knees but contracted pneumonia a week later. Robert Luff, her agent for 30 years, said: "She had been recovering well since the operation about a month ago. I was hoping she'd be starting work again soon."

Actress Barbara Windsor mourned her as "one of the greatest and the best," and actor Ian Bannen, who worked with her on the TV version of Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy, remembered her as "absolutely wonderful but the only thing she couldn't do was read - she was dyslexic".

Reid, the daughter of plain-speaking Scottish parents, attributed her hugely successful six-decade career to a simple principle: "I've got only one method as an actress and that's to try and make things a little bit more accurate than anyone else." Researching her parts was straightforward: "I start from the shoes and work up."

Without any formal training she progressed from music hall, through radio soap opera, to the National Theatre and regular television appearances. She will be especially remembered for her work with Alec Guinness in Tinker, Tailor, in the 1960s, as the grandmother in the Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13½, and for her leading role in the West End hit, The Killing of Sister George. She was awarded an OBE in 1985. Six years later she won a Lifetime Achievement Award for Comedy.

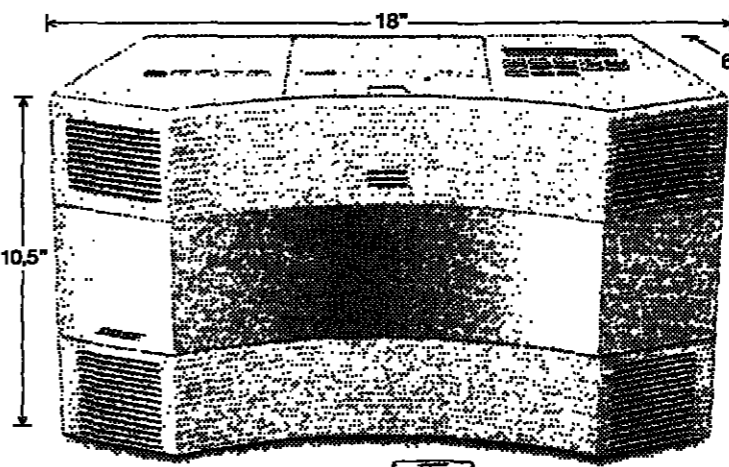
Obituaries, page 10



Beryl Reid... from music hall to National Theatre

Finally, you can expect superb sound wherever you are.

The Bose® Acoustic Wave® music system, the only thing that's limited is its availability.



Credit card-sized remote control makes it easy to enjoy hi-fi sound.



The optional Power Pack provides music on the go.

Bose introduces an easier, more convenient way to enjoy superb sound - the Acoustic Wave® music system. The result of over 12 years of intensive research, this system is small (10.5" h x 18" w x 6.5" d) and light (less than 16 lbs.), so you can take it anywhere. More important, it is a complete sound system with a credit card-sized remote control. Plus two equalizers, three amplifiers, three speakers, an AM/FM stereo tuner and a CD player. All built-in for ultimate convenience. What you hear is rich, natural sound delivered by Bose's patented acoustic waveguide® speaker technology which has won Dr. Bose America's prestigious "Inventor of the Year" award.

Easy does it.

As advanced as it is, this system is exceptionally simple to operate. There are no cables to connect. No dials to adjust. Just plug it in and start enjoying pure stereo sound. The credit card-sized remote control allows you to command all functions at the touch of a button.

Available only direct from Bose. You won't find the Acoustic Wave® music system in any shop. This advanced, multi-talented system is available only direct from Bose. For a free information pack, simply call freephone or send/fax the coupon below. Or to try the system in your home for 14 days, satisfaction guaranteed, call:

0800 022 044

When calling, please quote reference number 5103.

Yes, Bose, it sounds good to me. Please send me more information about the Bose Acoustic Wave® music system and the 14-day, satisfaction-guaranteed home audition.

Name _____ Mr/Mrs/Ms
Tel. _____ day _____ eve _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ 5103

Please return in an envelope to: Bose, Freephone TK 1020, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5UN. No stamp necessary. Or fax to: 0181 894 7664.



From the perspective of the 1990s, it seems mind-boggling that schoolmasters would happily bus a gaggle of adolescent males to see a show that proposed rape as a lark. W Stephen Gilbert on Lock Up Your Daughters

Arts, G2 page 12

Why Peter Thurnham went over to the Lib Dems

Sleaze row was final straw for MP

Ashdown flew from Scotland

Michael White
Political Editor

WHEN Michael Heseltine airily dismissed Peter Thurnham's defection to the Liberal Democrats yesterday with the phrase "I thought he went months ago", he was right in at least one respect. Back in February the MP for Bolton North East had gone, with his formidable wife and business partner, Sarah, to see John Major to express their concern about the way their Government and party were drifting in the wake of the Scott and Nolan investigations.

Unsatisfied, Mr Thurnham resigned the party whip that night. In limbo as an Independent he began to see a lot of the Liberal Democrat chief whip, Archy Kirkwood, who speaks for all the minor parties in backstairs negotiations known as the usual channels. It was a relationship that would bear fruit.

Mr Thurnham, a bit of a Euro-sceptic and certainly a practitioner as well as a theoretician of free-market economics, has an active social conscience, said to cost him £50,000 a year in charitable giving. "Heart to the left, wallet to the right," as he put it at Lib Dem HQ in London yesterday.

He asked to be put on two committees, community care and housing, both with implications for the disabled. When Mr Kirkwood nominated him, Greg Knight, the Government's new deputy chief whip, insisted that he be listed as part of the Tory majority. It didn't work. Mr Thurnham rebelled and helped to defeat his own side.

Since Mr Thurnham was tired of fighting marginal Bolton (and had been snubbed in the Lake District in favour of Major spin doctor Tim Collins), another Tory MP, Tom Arnold, suggested he try for other seats. His old boss, Sir Norman Fowler, had a chat. That seems to have been it.



Peter Thurnham with Paddy Ashdown yesterday. The defecting Tory said he was despairing at 'weak leadership and disunity'

PHOTOGRAPH: ADAM BUTLER

Little wooing took place — except by rival parties.

In October or November, the Thurnhams dined with Paddy and Jane Ashdown at their south London flat and got on well. Further meetings took place.

When Mr Thurnham saw Mr Kirkwood on one occasion, it was at the City office of solicitor Andrew Phillips, a former Lib Dem candidate and member of the Scott Trust which owns the Guardian. On the way he met Sir Norman on the Tube. The secret held.

Finally, after watching Labour and Lib Dem conferences, he rang Mr Kirkwood last Monday and arranged a meeting with Mr Ashdown at his flat on Tuesday.

Mr Ashdown flew down from Scotland. Mr Thurnham from his Lake District farm.

Details were finalised on Thursday and leaked to the Observer — for maximum effect on the Tories post-conference euphoria — in time for yesterday's first edition. "I can no longer support a government which has so lost touch with basic values of de-

centry that they have forfeited the trust and respect of the British people," Mr Thurnham said in a statement. "I cannot, above all, accept the latest attempts by the Government to suppress inquiries into allegations of sleaze, which poison the very basis of our democracy. I despair of the weak leadership and government disunity which weakens our international position at a time when this country needs national purpose and strength."

With his party's strength now 26 in the Commons, a

post-war high. Mr Ashdown called it a "brave decision" which would be respected by many. Mr Heseltine said it had been "cooked up."

Peter Hetherington adds: The word on the streets of Bolton, and in Tory circles, was that Peter Thurnham would not turn his back on politics at the next election.

The prospective Tory candidate for Bolton NE, Robert Wilson, remained convinced that the Lib Dems were lining up a seat for Mr Thurnham.

Like most local Tories, Mr Wilson has never placed Mr Thurnham on the party's liberal wing. "While he did have views on unemployment that would have been considered leftist, on most other areas he was actually on the right and was a keen supporter of John Major and definitely of Margaret Thatcher."

Norman Critchley, chairman of Bolton NE Tories, accused the defecting MP of "betraying" the town's people. "This was a total shock to me after all he has said about Liberal Democrats in the past. He made it clear he had no time for them."

For many North-west Tories Alistair Burt, social security minister and MP for Bury North, has long stood to the left of Mr Thurnham.

Yesterday Mr Burt stressed that he did not wish to make any "personal comments" about his neighbour. Intriguingly, however, he said: "I don't think there are valid reasons for a Conservative going over to the Liberal Democrats at the moment."

This implied there might well be a more valid time if the right of the party seized the initiative again.

Hamilton makes pitch to local party members

Sarah Boseley and David Hencke

NEIL Hamilton, the Tory MP at the heart of the cash for questions scandal, is attempting to shore up his tenuous hold on his Totton constituency in Cheshire by pleading his case in a three-page letter to its Conservative Association members.

"Many of you will not know what to believe," the MP writes, "and I am well aware of the very severe damage this episode has done to me and the party." He adds that the issues are "complex and almost impossible to explain concisely," but then sets out his case "to help you understand some of the points which have arisen."

He says he believes he has done nothing wrong and attacks both the Guardian and Harrods' owner Mohamed Al Fayed, original source of the paper's allegations.

In a further attempt at rehabilitation, the Totton MP will today address a private British Telecom conference on deregulation and the European Union at a London hotel.

A BT spokesman said: "He has been asked to address the meeting because of his wealth of experience as a former minister on the subject. We cannot disclose the venue as it is a private meeting." In his letter, Mr Hamilton insists there are "no credible witnesses or records" to support Mr Al Fayed's story that he paid MPs cash for questions.

But he does not mention Tim Smith, the MP who resigned after admitting he had taken fees from Mr Al Fayed. Nor does he refer to the trainee solicitor in a City firm, previously employed by Mr Al Fayed, who was prepared to give evidence that Mr Hamilton had collected envelopes containing money.

Mr Hamilton states that he dropped his libel action because a conflict of interest had arisen between his case and that of the political lobbyist Ian Greer, with whom he was suing the Guardian. Their lawyers withdrew, which meant he would have had to find £80,000 more for separate legal representation.

Yet within 48 hours it was clear the men had fallen out. Two contradictory pieces of evidence emerged that would

have come before the court. First Mr Greer announced he had paid Mr Hamilton £10,000 for introducing new business to him. Then it was revealed that in 1994 Mr Hamilton assured the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, that he had no financial relationship with Mr Greer.

In his letter, Mr Hamilton claims he thought he was being asked by Mr Heseltine about "an ongoing financial relationship" (like a retainer). All he had received were "two standard form single payments for a specific purpose unconnected with Fayed," he said.

He tells his constituents: "I did not solicit the payments. They placed me under no obligation whatever to perform any services, parliamentary or otherwise, to Ian Greer or his company. It is not suggested that such payments are improper."

He does not detail the services he rendered to the two companies he introduced to Ian Greer. US Tobacco, which was trying to get the government health ban on its chewing tobacco, Skoal Bandits, dropped — was one of them. He wrote to the health minister, Ray Whitney, on behalf of Skoal Bandits in 1986, proposed an amendment to the Finance Bill concerning oral snuff in 1989 and later that year put down a motion calling for the ban by then imposed to be annulled.

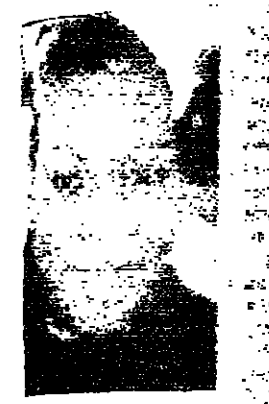
The MP's letter has been sent out with one from constituency chairman Alan Barnes urging constituents "to give Neil your continued support and await the facts from Sir Gordon".

Today the Government will face further pressure when Labour's Chief Whip, Donald Dewar, and his Liberal Democrat counterpart, Archy Kirkwood, hold a joint press conference demanding an inquiry into the role of the junior minister, David Willetts, in the Members' Interest Committee inquiry into Mr Hamilton two years ago.

They want the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, to intervene on the grounds that he was trying to interfere with the inquiry as a junior whip.

The Standards and Privileges Committee is then expected to discuss the scope of Sir Gordon Downey's "cash for questions" inquiry.

Amal Ahmed
British
life
harm
girl, 4



A CABLE & WIRELESS COMPANY

LAST WEEK, BT CUT THEIR PRICES BY UP TO 25%.

AND WE'RE STILL UP TO 48% CHEAPER.

Hurrah! Champagne! BT top 25% off their prices. But with our GlobalLink package for businesses, we're still 48% cheaper for

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS a three minute call to the States during weekday working hours.

Or 39% on a five minute long distance call in the UK. Hurrah! Vintage Bollinger!

For details FreeCall 0500 800 125.

Call us now on FreeCall 0500 800 125 and find out how much your company would save. Or return this coupon to Mercury Communications, FREEPOST MKR 9964, PO Box 49, Wythenshawe, Manchester M22 5GJ

JOB NUMBER: INITIALS: SURNAME: PUBLISHED: COMPANY NAME: ADDRESS: POSTCODE: TEL: FAX:

It doesn't cost anything to talk FreeCall 0500 800 125. BPSGN 00

Museums chief fights entry charge

Peter Hetherington

FOR the beleaguered director of Glasgow's art galleries and museums, it seemed the most unlikely alliance — unions and Tory councillors demanding admission charges to save jobs and meet a rising deficit.

"If we did that we would lose something which is very important in British cultural life," he said.

"These great places then immediately become more elitist, appealing to the better-off while losing touch with the local community. They should be for everyone because they were given to everyone."

The dilemma this week facing Julian Spalding, and his political masters in Glasgow, highlights the growing financial burden on Britain's municipal art galleries and museums as they attempt to maintain free access with govern-

ment grants falling steadily.

Many museum directors believe they will soon be forced to introduce a two-tier system — with free access for local council taxpayers and charges for tourists and outsiders.

Partly as a result of local government reorganisation, the Glasgow museums service has had to slash £1.3 million from its budget this year, with further cuts due in 1997. Scores of jobs are threatened.

To save between 35 and 50 jobs immediately at risk, the staff employed by the city museums and galleries asked their union to press the council to introduce charges. An admission fee of £1, raising an estimated £750,000 annually, was suggested.

The battle soon became personal, with one official accusing Mr Spalding of hand-plecking staff for the sack. "He says that as a socialist he doesn't want to



Julian Spalding: 'art for all' PHOTOGRAPH: MURDO MACLEOD

charge people admission. We know there are government cuts... but we don't think the loss of 50 jobs is the right way to go about it," said Duncan Ferguson of Unison. "He's hell-bent on these jobs going. Eventually charges will come. It's inevitable."

This week, members of the arts and leisure committee threw out a Tory suggestion to introduce an immediate £2 admission fee. But to save costs for a limited period, eight city museums will close for one day a week while another — Pollok House — will shut for six months of the year. The list includes the extensive Burrell Collection.

But the artistic pride of the city, the magnificent Kelvin Grove gallery and museum, with works by Rembrandt, Van Gogh, the French impressionists and the Scottish colourists, will remain open during the week.

Michael Wright, head of marketing for the Museums Association, said: "There is a traditional ethos of museums being for the public. They have been supported by the community over the years and

have already been paid for once, so there is a very strong sense that the policy (of free access) should continue."

But he warned that councils and other agencies are building admission fees into bids for millennium funding and lottery cash. This is likely to mean that new galleries and museums will inevitably levy compulsory charges. Some have already found a way around the problem. Mr Spalding, however, is resolute. He cites the example of the Louvre. "The people of Paris don't go there. It appeals to one-off visitors and the better off — who then benefit from the subsidies. And the ordinary people lose out."

A CABLE & WIRELESS COMPANY

STILL CHEAPER FOR BUSINESS

FINAL SCORE.

At kick off, we were up to 48% cheaper than BT. And at half-time. And at the final whistle. Yes, with our GlobalLink package for businesses, we're still 48% cheaper for a 3 minute call to the States during weekday working hours. If saving money is one of your goals FreeCall 0500 800 125.

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

It doesn't cost anything to talk FreeCall 0500 800 125

Over 800 direct company numbers BT has to use. And to open, every day. Call us, when you need us, on our 24-hour helpline. We'll be there at all times, at a charge of just 25p per minute. 10p per minute, 1.17

THE FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES

One-day conference organised by the Howard Society
Central Hall, Westminster
Thursday, 31 October
For programme and booking form:
Tel 0171 955 7458
Fax 0171 955 7492

سجدة الالهي

Kamal Ahmed on a dispute over fostering

British life 'may harm' girl, 4

FOUR-YEAR-OLD black child who has lived her whole life in Britain faces deportation to Jamaica with her mother this week after a court ruling said she would be disadvantaged by being brought up by a white foster family.

Fiona Matthan, who has been looked after by the Osborne family since she was 18 months old, will have to go to Jamaica if an appeal to be heard by the Court of Session in Edinburgh tomorrow fails.

Fiona, who was born in London, was fostered full time by Helen and Billy Osborne in 1995 when her natural mother, Althea Matthan, was jailed for two years after being found guilty of supplying crack cocaine.

Ms Matthan, who is at Styal Prison in Manchester awaiting deportation, has now said she wants Fiona to travel to Jamaica with her.

Althea Matthan: Wants to take daughter to Jamaica

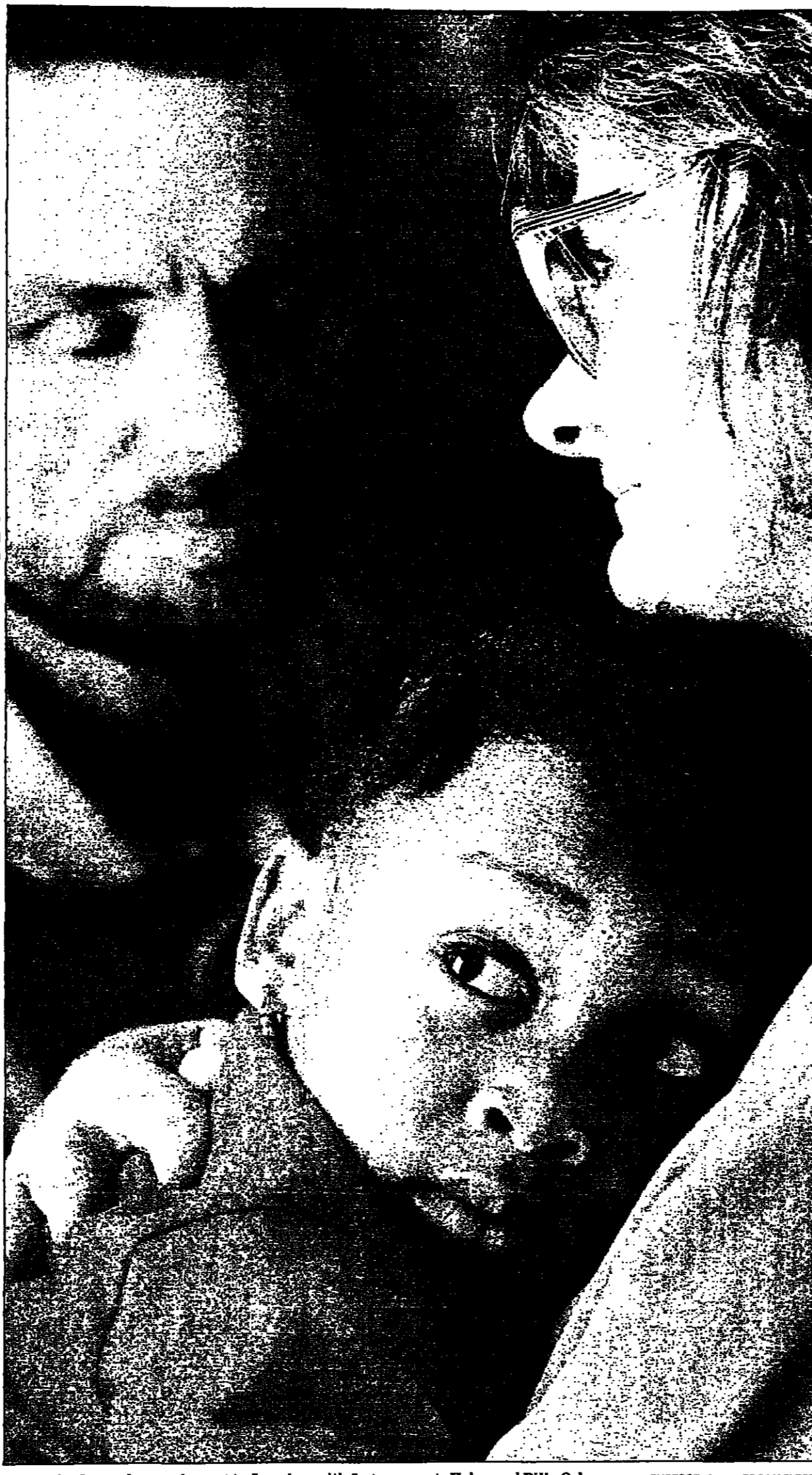
she wants Fiona to travel to Jamaica with her. While she was in prison she had a second child, Crystal, who would also travel to the Caribbean.

The Osborne family moved to Perth, in the east of Scotland, with Fiona after living in London for nearly 20 years. Fiona is attending a nursery in the city and has said she does not want to go to Jamaica.

One date for Ms Matthan's deportation has already been postponed because of the court case.

"It could be guaranteed that Fiona would be happy in Jamaica then we would be glad to see her go," said Mrs Osborne.

"But even Althea admits that she comes from a violent background and the authorities appear to have done nothing to check on the type of life Fiona may face. She is one of the family here."



Fiona Matthan, who may be sent to Jamaica, with foster parents Helen and Billy Osborne

News in brief

Donor service needs more resources

CAMPAIGNERS yesterday called on the Government to provide more cash for life-saving organ transplants, after it emerged hundreds of usable hearts, lungs, livers and kidneys are wasted every year.

Surgeons fear that unless there is confidence in the transplant programme, it could deter bereaved families from offering organs to be removed from relatives.

Occasionally there is a cock-up in the system, but more often it's for understandable reasons which are brought about by the state of things in the health service, which is a lack of resources where it matters.

'Shrink' watchdog urged

A STATUTORY council to prevent "cowboy" psychologists from abusing patients should be set up with legal powers to strike off practitioners who break the rules, MPs say today.

An overwhelming majority of those who replied to the questionnaire wanted such regulations, and said if a Bill setting out such powers came before the House of Commons they would vote in favour.

Margaret McAllister, president of the BPS, said: "At present anyone can call themselves a psychologist whether that person has any training or qualifications or not."

M15 to fight 'serious crime'

M15 will have the power for the first time to combat "serious crime", hitherto the task of the police, under legislation which comes into force today.

A broad definition of serious crime in the act — already criticised by Commons Intelligence and Security Committee as too sweeping — includes any offence involving "conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose".

Man bailed after scuffle

A MAN arrested following the death of pensioner who had a heart attack after a scuffle in a supermarket car park was allowed home by police yesterday.

Retired businessman Gordon Edwards, aged 71, was knocked to the ground after an "exchange of words" in Darlington, County Durham, on Saturday.

Cannabis found in prison

STAFF at a prison in Norfolk have been issued with pictures of cannabis plants after one was unearthed during a routine search of the jail's smart garden.

Atlas goes on line

THE first interactive atlas which will put Britain at the fingertips of personal computer users is being launched on Wednesday.

Launched by the national mapping agency Ordnance Survey in a joint venture with Attica, it gives total map coverage of the country, so users can zoom in on areas in greater detail or view information about selected localities, and has a gazetteer of 45,000 place names.

£10m lottery jackpot for one

ONE ticket netted the £10.6 million jackpot in the 100th National Lottery draw. The winning numbers were 25, 15, 45, 16, 36, 30 with bonus number 14.

Entertainments & Travel

THEATRE LONDON
ALBERT FINNEY
WYNDHAM'S THEATRE
BYE BEEVES
LYRIC THEATRE
SUNSET
BEST MUSICAL
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
GREASE
MAGGIE SMITH
MARGARET TYZACK
TALKING HEADS
ALAN BENNETT

THE REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
NATIONAL THEATRE
OLD WICKED SONGS
JASON DONOVAN
ROSEMARY LEACH
NIGHT MUST FALL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
OLIVER
LES MISERABLES
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
WOMEN LAUGHING

BEST MUSICAL
BLOOD BROTHERS
SWAN LAKE
A DOLL'S HOUSE
CATS
MARTIN GUERRE
C'EST MAGNIFIQUE
AN IDEAL HUSBAND
LES MISERABLES
WOMEN LAUGHING

GENE WILDER
BUDDY
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE
A DOLL'S HOUSE
MARTIN GUERRE
C'EST MAGNIFIQUE
AN IDEAL HUSBAND
LES MISERABLES
WOMEN LAUGHING

OPERA
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
FLIGHT MARKET
OVERSEAS
MUSIC EXTRA
MARKSON
CASH ON DELIVERY

Saddam's Kurdish foes retake city

David Hirst in Beirut

AN overnight offensive that has thrown the Western-protected Kurdish enclave of northern Iraq into renewed turmoil, anti-Baghdad Kurdish rebels yesterday recaptured the eastern city of Sulaymaniyah only a month after losing it to a Kurdish faction then aligned with President Saddam Hussein.

By dawn yesterday, Jalal Talabani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) was in complete control of the city, after the withdrawal of Massoud Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), which had captured it with President Saddam's help.

In Baghdad, the Iraqi leader chaired a meeting of his revolutionary command council to discuss the development.

Only a month ago it looked as if the PUK had suffered a massive, even terminal, defeat. Sulaymaniyah, Mr Talabani's political stronghold, had fallen with barely a shot fired. For the first time, virtually the whole of "liberated" Kurdistan came under a single leadership. An era of relative stability seemed to have dawned.

With the reconquest of the city, Mr Talabani has achieved an astonishing reversal. But unless he secures the kind of swift and overwhelming victory that his rival briefly did, he will plunge the enclave back into chaos.

With Turkey bent on establishing a "security zone" along its frontier, Iran having demonstrated its interventionist ambitions, and Mr Barzani again seeking external support, the internal

Baghdad's vanquished allies now appeal to West against 'Iranian invasion' as Talabani reconquers Sulaymaniyah

Kurdish struggle lends itself more than ever to exploitation by regional powers.

The United States may soon face critical decisions about the enclave's future, and the gains which President Saddam will seek there.

Mr Talabani's comeback began late last week, when his fighters — those who had not fled to Iran — ambushed a KDP convoy and destroyed 100 vehicles. Mr Barzani took personal command of his forces in the Sulaymaniyah area. But after three abortive counter-offensives, he had to order a general withdrawal.

According to the KDP, Tehran's army shelled the city with artillery and Katyusha rockets, and Iranian Revolutionary Guards have entered it alongside the PUK.

But a United Nations official in the city said it had been seized with ease: "It is just another day. The KDP is out and the PUK is in."

The PUK forces are now said to be advancing swiftly towards Irbil, the "capital" of the Kurdish enclave.

Ahmad Shalabi, head of the Iraqi National Congress, the Iraqi opposition group whose Kurdish-based operations were devastated by Baghdad's attack on Irbil, said: "Masoud [Barzani] is now in real danger."

Clearly, Mr Talabani poses a threat to Mr Barzani's head-

quarters at Salahuddin, in the hills above Irbil. But he may also seek to push the KDP out of its heartlands, aiming for complete mastery of Kurdistan and unrivalled leadership of the national struggle.

During Mr Barzani's brief spell in control, he pledged to resume the national tasks interrupted by civil war: to build a strong administration and a single "national" army; hold free and fair elections; root out corruption and revive a shattered economy.

He made light of the "temporary alliance" with President Saddam, thinking he could secure renewed Western backing, despite being alarmed by noises from

Washington. The secretary of state for near eastern affairs, Robert Pelletreau, said that while President Bush may have vowed to protect the Kurdish enclave, "it has not been the policy of this administration" to defend it against Iraqi aggression.

But KDP officials said the West had everything to gain from the establishment of a strong, single rule in the enclave, which could withstand the exploitation by regional powers — Turkey, Iran or Iraq — that led to last month's crisis.

Mr Barzani had what he called a "very productive" meeting with Mr Pelletreau in Ankara, and the KDP was

due to send a delegation to Washington soon. In return for effective Western support, Mr Barzani would refrain from entering into a long-term "political" deal with President Saddam.

All of a sudden, the West cannot help him. Mr Pelletreau said: "We have no commitment to protect [the Kurds] against their own bad judgement if they invite Saddam in."

Only President Saddam, with ground troops in the vicinity, can do anything for Mr Barzani, and the KDP leader's new predicament offers the Iraqi leader dramatic opportunities.

It was a threat to the KDP's existence that prompted Mr Barzani to turn to Baghdad in the first place. He must deem that threat even greater now. That is why he is so desperately playing up the spectre of



The "Iranian peril" — whether real or imaginary — in a plea to the world, he said yesterday that to counter the Iranian "invasion", he would accept "any aid from any quarter".

Granddads' army spike Dole's guns

Jonathan Freedland in Sunny Isles, Florida

IFE in Florida follows a fairly strict routine if you are old. Tuesday night is bingo, Friday night offers dancing, there is a show on Saturday, and on Sunday a film.

And when it comes to voting, you follow the advice written on your "ballot", a hand-sized slip of paper naming the candidate recommended by your local pensioners' political action committee.

On November 5 the palm-cards in Sunny Isles will have one name at the top — Bill Clinton.

In Condo Canyon, a cluster of blocks of flats for senior citizens along southern Florida's east coast, older Americans will desert the candidate of their own generation — the 73-year-old Republican Bob Dole — and back a man young enough to be their son.

It is one of the more striking surprises of the 1996 campaign: older voters are more hostile to Mr Dole than any other age group, favouring Mr Clinton by 54 points to 34.

A new poll shows one in 10 of those under 34 in Florida think Mr Dole is too old to be president but one in three of the over-50s think the same.

"I'm about the same age as Dole," said Marion Osborne at the bowling alley. "I know I'm not capable of doing the things I used to. To run this country, you need someone a little younger."

America's "seniors" are troubled not just by Mr Dole's age but by his plans.

The Democrats and trade unions have been running advertisements in Florida for nearly six months accusing the Republicans of wanting to slash Medicare, the government-run health insurance scheme for the elderly.

"Without it we couldn't get

along. We're not rich people," said Sylvia Schanker, aged 77, originally from Brooklyn and one of the hundreds of thousands who have flocked to Florida for its warm climate and low taxes.

Mrs Schanker knows that a single unsubsidised prescription could cost up to \$100 and that without Medicare she would have to turn to her children for financial help.

She says she moved to the Avila Condominium in Sunny Isles 23 years ago because her husband's asthma was aggravated by the New York air. Florida has improved his health, and she thinks only Mr Clinton will keep him well.

"At our stage of the game, all we have left is our dignity," said Marvin Manning, president of the Avila residents' association. Old people still remember Herbert Hoover and the hard times of the 1930s, he said.

"People can't forget Republicans are the party of the Depression and the Democrats got us out of it."

Mr Manning, aged 70, plays a key role in condo culture; he is a civic organiser, delivering the votes of his neighbours in the fashion of old-time American machine politics.

In the argot of Florida politics, he is a condo commando.

The politicians are listening hard to Mr Manning and the other condo commandos — they cannot afford not to.

In Florida, where "seniors" are a quarter of the population, they even have their own parliament, the so-called silver-haired legislature.

This week it meets in the same chamber as the state assembly, where it will vote on bills which the real legislature will feel compelled to pass.

Pensioners, it is claimed, put more money into the Florida economy than agriculture or tourism. As Mr Manning likes to remind visiting candidates, old people vote, while their children stay home.

The result is that the over-65s usually get their way: their federal funds remain intact even when money for the young is cut.

The old folks want Mr Clinton to keep it that way — and make sure that life in Sunny Isles stays sunny.



Vanesa Sosa, aged 7, from Mexico, joined tens of thousands of Hispanic demonstrators in Washington on Saturday at a rally against welfare and immigration reforms which they believe discriminate against them. The protesters want simpler citizenship procedures and a \$7 minimum wage. PHOTOGRAPH: JOSE MAGANA

Party Time!

Jesus said, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, don't invite your friends and family and relatives and rich neighbours. If you do, they will invite you in return, and you will be paid back. When you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. They cannot pay you back. But God will bless you and reward you when his people rise from death." (Luke 14.12-14)

Peru jails 'unfriendly' general

Jane Diaz-Lima in Lima

THE imprisonment of a former general on drug charges and the adoption of a law limiting Peru's constitutional rights have revived accusations that President Alberto Fujimori's government is sweeping aside democratic guarantees.

General Jaime Rios was jailed for 15 years on Friday, convicted of aiding the self-confessed drug trafficker Demetrio Chavez, who was given 25 years.

Rios, originally called as a witness only to be included among the defendants, was

accused of taking payments for drug airlifts and accepting supplies for his men from local authorities involved in drug trafficking.

His lawyer immediately asked for a supreme court appeal, saying that the sentence was "political revenge".

The trial gained notoriety when Chavez accused the intelligence service chief, Vladimir Montesinos, of taking pay-offs in return for protecting his jungle drug operations.

Later a visibly debilitated Chavez retracted the allegations. Chavez's lawyer claimed his client had been coerced.

In a newspaper interview last month, Rios said that he was on trial for being no friend of the army commander in chief, Nicolas Hermoza, who is a close ally of Mr Montesinos.

Rios had protested against the treatment of the officers who led an aborted coup in November 1992, trying to overturn President Fujimori's dissolution of congress. Rios also refused to sign a document denouncing as a "traitor" General Rodolfo Robles, then third in command of the army.

Meanwhile, congress has passed a bill to hinder efforts to call a referendum on hold-

Poachers set back drive to protect Mexico's hapless night visitors

Molly Moore in Escobilla, Mexico

THE night of the full moon in late August was most inauspicious for the thousands of olive ridley sea turtles that heaved their cumbersome bodies on to Escobilla beach in search of a safe place to deposit their eggs.

That night — one of the most important of the year for turtle nesting here — guerrillas attacked the centre of a nearby tourist resort, drawing marines away from their sentry posts at one of the country's largest turtle preserves.

Word raced through nearby fishing villages. Within hours 200 poachers descended. They scooped hundreds of thousands of eggs the size of ping-pong balls from the sand and butchered untold numbers of exhausted female turtles as they flailed frantically back towards the sea.

"It's a catastrophe for the turtles," said Homero Arid-

jis, president of the Group of 100 environmental body in Mexico City.

Endangered sea turtles have been protected by law since 1990. The August massacre was a big setback for researchers at the nearby turtle-preservation centre in Oaxaca state.

"I felt horrible — sad, angry and disappointed," said the biologist Javier Vasconcelos Perez, director of the National Mexican Turtle Centre. "The people on the coast just don't understand the need to protect the turtles."

Mexico's coastlines provide some of the most important nesting grounds in the world, used by seven of the world's eight types of sea turtles. But Mexico has an impoverished populace, rapidly escalating commercial development and lax

enforcement of its environmental laws.

For centuries local people have considered turtle eggs an aphrodisiac, and poverty drives them to poach the meat and the turtle shell, which is sold to make illicit boots, wallets and purses.

Oaxaca, where on August 28 the newly emerged Popular Revolutionary Army launched its largest attack

ing species that lived before the dinosaurs.

Even without poachers, survival rates are low. Turtle eggs are vulnerable to attack by fly larvae, fungi, crabs, dogs and birds.

Until the 1960s, villagers harvested only enough turtles to sustain their families. But an explosion in international demand for turtle leather and shell accessories transformed them into a source of income.

The town of Mazunte, near Escobilla, was built on the turtle business in the 1970s. Environmentalists estimate that in 1989, at the height of the trade, 35,000 olive ridley turtles were slaughtered — more than a quarter of the 120,000 olive ridley population believed to exist in Mexico today.

The impact of the 1990 ban on Escobilla beach was almost immediate. Researchers estimate that the number of turtle nests increased from 60,000 in 1988 to nearly 700,000 last year. — Washington Post.

News in brief

Hutus flee Zaire camp

About 20,000 Burundian Hutu refugees fled their camp in eastern Zaire yesterday after it was attacked by armed men, believed to be Tutsis, who killed four of them, aid sources said.

"There are some 20,000 on the move, heading north to other camps further away from Uvira town," one source said. — Reuters.

Royal rescue

The Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah paid the bill yesterday for a Palestinian refugee, Nabil Refail, aged 32, in Sidon, Lebanon, who threatened to sell his seven-year-old son to pay for his father's medical expenses. — Reuters.

Khmer defectors

About 300 Khmer Rouge guerrillas were formally inducted into the Cambodian armed forces yesterday. The joint defence minister, Tea Banh, presided over the ceremony at which defectors were given

Food, medicine and two sets of army uniforms. — Reuters.

Kidnap hunt

Police were still searching for Jakob Fiszmann, a Frankfurt businessman, three days after his brother paid a four million mark (£2 million) ransom to kidnapers. — Reuters.

Child sex lobby

About 1,000 people demonstrated outside Belgium's highest court in support of the judge and magistrate leading inquiries into the child sex abuse case. — Reuters.

Algerian clashes

Security forces killed 12 Muslim guerrillas in Algiers after an eight-hour gunbattle around a villa used as a hideout. An Algerian newspaper, el Watan, reported. — Reuters.

Priecy Paris

High costs in France are forcing the International Herald Tribune to think about relocating to the United States, the newspaper's executive editor, Michael Getler, confirmed yesterday. — AP.

Please return to: Christian Enquiry Agency, FREEPOST, London, SE1 7YX.

Name _____

Address _____

CHRISTIAN ENQUIRY AGENCY

CEA works in association with every major Christian church in England.

CEV © 1995, ABS

COMPETITION IS GREAT FOR BUSINESS. SO COME ON BT, BE A BIT MORE COMPETITIVE.

It seems BT are pulling their punches. OK, they cut prices last week. But Mercury will still be substantially cheaper. For details, FreeCall 0500 800 125.

MERCURY

It doesn't cost anything to talk. FreeCall 0500 800 125

Prices and savings compared against BT's basic rate. Run to 6pm, weekdays. Calls are subject to a maximum charge of 4.2p. GlobalLink satellite services are available for a subscription fee of £7.50 per quarter. All prices quoted as VAT.

Handwritten note in Arabic script: "بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم"

Bombay devours its citizens

Asia's economic growth has spawned sprawling super-cities. In the first of a series on Bombay, Suzanne Goldenberg examines the effects

IT IS the city of dreams, and cold hard cash; an ever-growing megalopolis which gobbles up space like a great, hungry beast. The only things that count in Bombay are land and people who get in the way of turning it into profit.

In the early 1990s property prices rose higher than Tokyo and the stockbroker was king. Politicians boasted that they would make Bombay — or Mumbai as it is officially renamed this year — into a new Hong Kong or Singapore. Now the boom has bust.

Environmentalists like Mr Sehgal say Bombay's growth is responsible for the displacement of millions, who are forced out by landlords as the city moves northwards along the peninsula.

him was killed, and his widow's crusade to punish his murderers has become a symbol of courage. But officials say they are powerless to stop Bombay expanding, admitting they have left its future to be dictated by market forces.

groves and coconut plantations across the harbour, and to the tracts occupied by ailing textile mills at the heart of the city.



THE forces of the former Afghan government military chief Ahmed Shah Massoud took a second town north of Kabul, informed sources said yesterday.

minutes drive from the capital, fell late on Saturday after five hours of fierce fighting between Commander Massoud's forces and the Taliban, the fundamentalist Islamic militia

which drove him from the capital two weeks ago. It fell some hours after Cmr Massoud took Jabal-Saraj, the town where the Taliban had their headquarters, at the mouth of

the Salang Pass through the Hindu Kush mountains. Charikar was peaceful for most of yesterday, but local people expected a Taliban counter-attack, the sources said.

The fall of the two towns is a serious setback for the Taliban, who are also facing raids by Cmr Massoud's forces and his allies nearer Kabul which have cut both roads to the north.

Meanwhile, refugees (above) fled fighting on Saturday in the village of Qulai Murad Baig, six miles north of Kabul. — Reuters.

China turns screw on dissidents

HARSH treatment of a leading Chinese dissident has been revealed as Beijing takes new steps to tighten political controls. The veteran protester Wei Jingsheng is in an unheated cell with six common criminals who keep watch over him 24 hours a day.



Wei Jingsheng: Cellmates constantly harass him

Burundi strongman backs down but neighbours keep sanctions

BURUNDI'S Hutu military leader has bowed to regional sanctions and agreed to unconditional negotiations with Hutu rebels. But a weekend summit of east African presidents remained suspicious of Major Pierre Buyoya's assurances.

The continuation of sanctions was a snub to the United States secretary of state, Warren Christopher, who pressed the regional leaders to ease them when he met them the day before the summit.

ade has hardened the resolve of many who believe they are struggling for survival against Hutu rebels intent on repeating the genocide of neighbouring Rwanda.

Even the site of the talks is contentious, given the dangers for Hutu politicians in the capital Bujumbura.

Potential PMs lure kingmaker

THE man who will decide the future of the New Zealand government took off on a fishing trip yesterday, as his party angled for the best deal from potential coalition partners.

Winston Peters, leader of the nationalist New Zealand First party, now has the role of kingmaker after New Zealand's general election on Saturday.

Major Pierre Buyoya and his army are arsonists pretending to be firemen

Major Pierre Buyoya and his army, who initiated this crisis and its tragedy, are now pretending to be saviours.

UN chief 'aided Israel'

THE first United Nations secretary-general, Trygve Lie (right), worked tirelessly and in secret to help the emerging state of Israel throughout his term in office.

Deadly virus returns

THE Ebola virus has surfaced for the fifth time in 18 months, claiming seven lives so far in the African country of Gabon.

US crime success

THE United States murder rate in 1995 was the lowest in a decade, the FBI said, while overall violent crime — including rape, robbery and aggravated assault — fell to its lowest since 1989.

Austria's far-right soars in EU poll

SUPPORT for Austria's Social Democrats slumped to an historic low in a European Parliament election yesterday, as the far-right Freedom Party at 28.1 per cent.

'Free Vanunu' calls

MORDECHAI VANUNU's supporters appealed for his freedom yesterday, 10 years after Israel jailed him for spilling nuclear secrets to a British newspaper.

Greek Cypriot shot dead

TURKISH Cypriot forces yesterday shot dead a Greek Cypriot who crossed into the north of the divided island, British and Turkish officials said.

Island premier killed

THE premier of the violence-torn Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville has been assassinated, robbing the province of one of its strongest voices for peace, the PNG government said yesterday.

UN chief 'aided Israel'

THE first United Nations secretary-general, Trygve Lie (right), worked tirelessly and in secret to help the emerging state of Israel throughout his term in office.



THE first United Nations secretary-general, Trygve Lie (right), worked tirelessly and in secret to help the emerging state of Israel throughout his term in office.

US crime success

THE United States murder rate in 1995 was the lowest in a decade, the FBI said, while overall violent crime — including rape, robbery and aggravated assault — fell to its lowest since 1989.

"Mother Teresa's line is that they give 'low level care'. But it's not, it's neglect." Peter Taylor

cover story

Advertisement for Mercury, featuring text like 'APETITION GREAT FOR BUSINESS', 'COME ON BT', 'BIT MORE APETITIVE', and 'Call 0500 500125'.

The elusive prize is EMU
But it needs a social revolution

THE MOST important economic decision of the 20th century will have to be made within the next year: whether Britain should in principle join the rest of Europe in monetary union complete with a common currency (EMU) or stay out.

The proper course for Britain is constructive delay. Not the political pusillanimity that forces the main parties to do the right thing for the wrong reason but a purposive postponement enabling us to be a forceful part of the decision-making machinery and retaining a genuine option to join without being forced to exercise it for the immediate future.

There is — say — a 25 per cent chance that EMU will bring economic nirvana. But there is also a similar chance that it will bring disaster with heavy unemployment if Britain is unable to shake off her historic propensity to pay more in wages relative to other countries than is justified by productivity.

It must be right to wait and see whether the project works for others before irrevocably committing ourselves. France has linked her currency to the German mark in a mini-monetary union at enormous cost (miserable growth and unemployment still running at over 12.5 per cent).

There is another reason for waiting. Once the "euro" is adopted by the core group of pioneer countries, it will almost certainly become a second de facto currency for the UK. International corporations will immediately adopt it for their loans: farmers will be paid in it and exporters will receive it in payment for their products.

None of this need prevent Britain from playing a leading role in the negotiations to establish the single currency including re-joining the ERM. As long as this is done at a realistic rate of exchange it will act as an essential training ground for possible full membership.

The missing Nobel
East Timor's gain is China's loss

THIS YEAR'S Nobel peace prize has propelled one Asian human rights issue into much-needed limelight while leaving another one in the shade. The award to Bishop Belo and the exiled resistance leader Jose Ramos Horta was wholly deserved.



Letters to the Editor

Questions from the floor

WAS Mr Major's suggestion that he did not have the same start in life as Tony Blair and Harriet Harman — "We did not have the benefit of a private education" — an admission that private schools are superior to state schools?

[S] Mr Major ashamed of Brington? If not, why does he keep on talking about it?

MICHAEL Heseltine complains of Sir James Goldsmith having homes in Britain, France and Mexico. Is this not the politics of envy?

[F] Mr Blair is now to be portrayed as "smarmy", why did Tory Central Office spend millions portraying him as the devil incarnate?

THE PRIVATE life of Dolly Parton is known to be better than that of some ex-Tory ministers. Why does Kenneth Clark refer to this lady in such a disgusting manner?

PETER Lilley extols the success of the fraudsters' hotline. But more money is lost to the Treasury by tax evasion.

[CHALLENGE] what Tony Alderman (Letters, October 12) calls "harmless adult films" viewed "in the privacy of their own homes".

Breaking up the family

THE misogynistic notion that man who has beaten up the mother of his children is not necessarily a threat to those children has to be challenged.

There is no better way of raising battered wives than to give tacit approval to the battering of their mothers; there is no better way of condoning domestic violence than to incarcerate a woman who seeks to protect her daughter from the corrupting influence of a man who uses women as punchbags.

THE imprisonment of anyone, especially in a family dispute, is to be regretted but this case sharply defines the inadequacies of our thinking on the rights of children.

What will happen after the release of this woman? Will she be permitted by law to resume loving care of the child, or is car-and-mouse torture to go on and on; will she suffer repeated imprisonment, or will her daughter be dragged away time after time, in enforced presentation to a man who has used violence.

LORD Justice Ward declared (Mother must stay in jail, October 12) that there had been "not a single word of regret" from the mother for her disobedience in refusing to allow contact with the father.

I have spent 25 years as organiser of a charity dealing with instances of judicial idocy and this is surely one of the worst.

A professor brings his bedside manner to a bout of influenza

UNDERSTAND your correspondents' concerns (Letters, October 10) about preventing influenza by mass immunisation and immunising carers of high-risk patients and the elderly.

Diabetics can be reassured that vaccination against flu is beneficial and I know of no evidence that it can precipitate diabetes.

Flu vaccination for people with diabetes is 79 per cent effective in reducing hospitalisations for influenza, pneumonia and diabetic events, said, as the CMO stated, last week, repeated vaccination is associated with a 76 per cent reduction in the possibility of death.

Calling cards

YOUR report on BT blocking calls to working girls who use cards in phone boxes (October 11) does not tell the full story.

A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: It was probably the best day of the autumn — even of the whole year. The sun smiled down from dawn to dusk, the winds of three days earlier were still and the visibility, if not as pin-sharp as sometimes in February, at least reached to the horizon.

Thin blue line

AS a police officer, I applaud the anti-crime stance taken by the political parties. I find it surprising, therefore, that government is intent on severe reductions in the Ministry of Defence Police, the civilian constabulary of the Ministry of Defence.



Corporate body

WITHIN the funeral profession, the takeover bid from a gigantic worldwide organisation has led to a series of tricks being used to undermine the diminishing number of independent, family-run funeral directors.

When some verse is worse than no verse

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

THE admission will cause me nothing but grief, but I feel an irresistible compulsion to confess that I have, at very best, mixed feelings about National Poetry Day.

daily life would celebrate its existence for a carefully prescribed 24 hours. They do not have an opera day in Italy.

without any obvious intellectual effort. Persons described as "poets" were employed to compose instant verse about the day's events.

heard the chimes at midnight thought that plays — written in the greatest poetry this country has ever produced — was the natural form of popular entertainment.

baller, but his voice suggested otherwise. And most professional footballers have a healthier respect for English literature.

rewarding. That you might argue, is a reason for holding Poetry Day as a loss-leader which attracts readers into the supermarket of great poems.

Handwritten signature: Roy Hattersley

Dunkerque Diary

Alex Duval Smith

I HAD expected an A-way day with the French National Front to resemble a Saturday afternoon in one of the more notorious kops of European football...

What I thought I had heard among the dozens of social events advertised on the 0891-type number (named after the party's leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen) were details of a day-trip to Dunkerque...

But surely, the kindly-looking silver-haired old gent sitting opposite me was not a supporter? His only distinguishing feature was that he wore full-sized medals...

In my search for skin-heads, I moved on to the bar but met only with a cross-section of taxpayers with hair-lengths starting at an inch and a half...

"Do you think that... Taxes are too high... Corruption in the media... Cuts in family allowances are unfair..."

That shared endeavour to resolve an issue beyond party politics should have continued after the visit. The issues are well-known. Less than decade before, another maniac with a licence killed more than a dozen people at Hungerford...

"If you answered yes to more than nine of these questions, you think like us. If you answered yes to fewer than six, think hard while there is still time..."

In a country where it would be rare for a grocer's daughter or a circus artist's son to get anywhere near the corridors of power, there are thousands of people prepared to answer yes to all 12 questions.

The demonstration was peaceful and included a roll-call of 50 French politicians, placed under formal investigation but whose cases of alleged corruption have never come to court.

If you think about the message — and who sent it — for more than three seconds, your head starts to hurt. But that is the nature of Le Pen politics.

Death and defection won't defeat Tories

Michael White

PETER Thurnham had the air of a man who had grappled with himself and won when he and Paddy Ashdown turned up at the Liberal Democrat HQ yesterday for a rare Sunday morning press conference in an otherwise deserted, post-conference Westminster.

Their usual fate is more like that of the supergrass, whose testimony is used against others before he is discarded. There is no new political passport or a life in Australia for MPs. Who now remembers Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler?

So, does the defection of a no-hoper matter as we approach election day, unless the combined Opposition can unite to topple John Major in the next few weeks? Not in terms of Thurnham's future.

charges of Nazi tactics against Sinn Féin IRA. But they also serve a tactical purpose at Westminster. What could the issue be? The Queen's Speech? Sleaze? Unwarranted tax cuts in the budget? BSE? Labour might win a no confidence vote on any of them.

minster. Hence the joint press conference with Archie Kirkwood and Labour's Donald Dewar (frequent allies in the cross-party strategy over Scottish devolution) to press for a wider remit for the new cash-for-questions investigation.

So long, and thanks for all the fish



Ros Coward

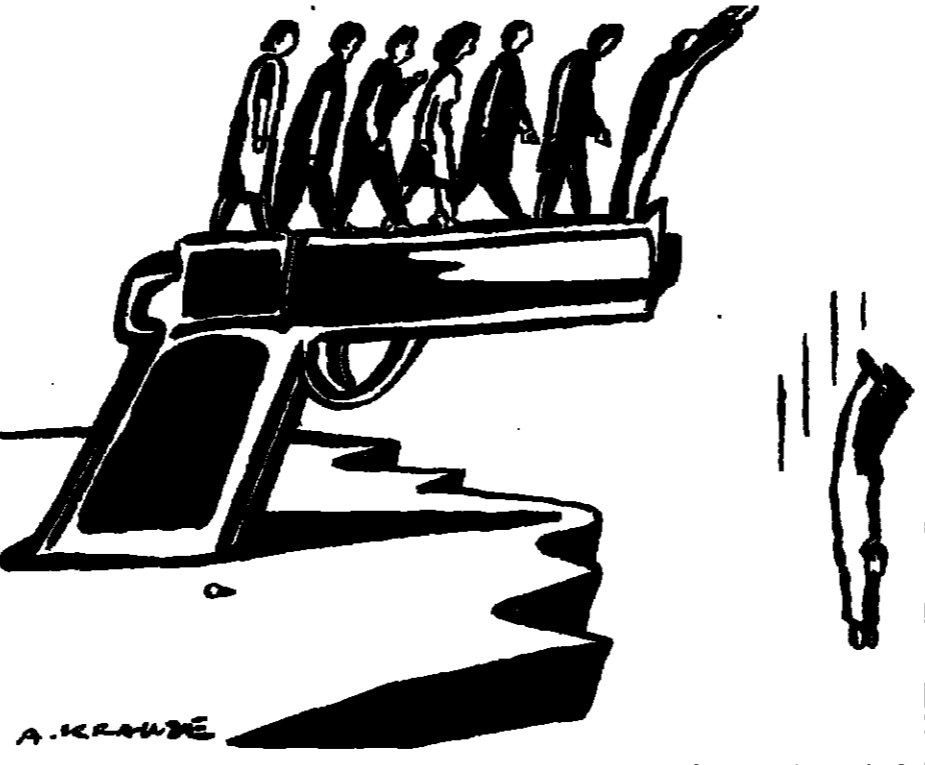
NEXT time you tuck into taramasalata, think about this. It is made from cod's roe and may well have been ripped from spawning cod which were not given any fishing quota.

It's difficult to care about fish. They are easy food for an exponentially increasing population. We all benefit oil from those sand eels finds its way into our biscuits.

No guns in the House

David Mellor wants public pressure put on MPs to ban hand-guns immediately

PUBLIC revulsion should have made gun control a tepid potato which no politician need have feared grasping. Instead, the Government has shown an almost perverse determination to turn it into a red-hot one.



led to an agreed programme of action, with legislation on the statute book before the recess. Instead, the Government turned to Lord Cullen. When will it learn not to give politicians' work to lawyers? Even after Scott and Nolan it is inescapable. Cullen was asked not merely to determine what went wrong in Dunblane — which is a judge's job — but to tell us what the policy on hand-guns should be — which is not it that's the way to do it, why bother to have a government after the visit?

now seem aware that if his reasoning is as threadbare as the Home Affairs Select Committee's report, the public response will be equally contemptuous. So Sunday's newspapers were full of briefings, presumably from Michael Howard, that regard- less of Cullen's proposals, there will be a ban on keeping hand-guns at home. If Cullen's recommendations are to be rejected, sight unseen, why bother with him at all?

single-shot .22 calibre pistols as used in Olympic competition, that would take out of circulation 200,000 licensed hand-guns, and end the growth of an American past-time which gun club lobbyists call the fastest-growing sport in Britain. That lobby has no answer to the evidence that murders by shooting are greater in societies where guns are freely available.

some are bound to be unstable. If this seems an exaggerated concern, let me offer two recent incidents. Next month at Monk Crown court, Jason Curtis, a gun club member, is to be sentenced for firearms offences, having been found with a substantial collection of legally-held weapons at home, and a list of people, including senior police officers, against whom he had a grievance.

Wanted: a wee but free land

Larry Elliott assesses the Scottish National Party's policies

ANOTHER MANIFESTO

MAINSTREAM politicians tend to avoid innovative ideas, preferring the safe issues they already know. This column, in the months leading up to the election, will seek to widen the debate by offering them (and voters) a fresh, constructive and ingenious set of policy proposals.

For instance, in a London dominated by chattering-class expectations of a Blair government, the Scottish National Party barely warrants a mention. But north of the border, the SNP is riding high in the polls and is close to grabbing a serious number of Scottish seats.

Third, smaller countries have prospered in Europe. Ten of the EU's members are small nations, and an independent Scotland with its reliance on exports would punch above its weight, secure financial assistance from Brussels and attract even more inward investment in its booming electronics sector.

count the exceptional costs of delivering services to remote areas. Put bluntly, SNP critics say, the hated Sassenachs are subsidising these wonderful Scottish education and legal systems we hear so much about.

manist countries to the east. The SNP is undaunted. It says Government figures showing that Scotland had an £8 billion hand-out from Westminster in 1993-4 were distorted by the cost of the recession, argues that public-spending comparisons do not include those areas (defence procurement and the Civil Service) where south-east England cleans up. It believes that parceling up the North Sea into Scottish and English segments could be done painlessly, on the basis of which country currently has legal jurisdiction.

You wouldn't hold the Grand National anywhere but Aintree.

For top thoroughbreds, nowhere's quite like Aintree. And for front runners in all lines of business, nowhere is quite like the International Convention Centre, Birmingham.

brings his bed... about influenza

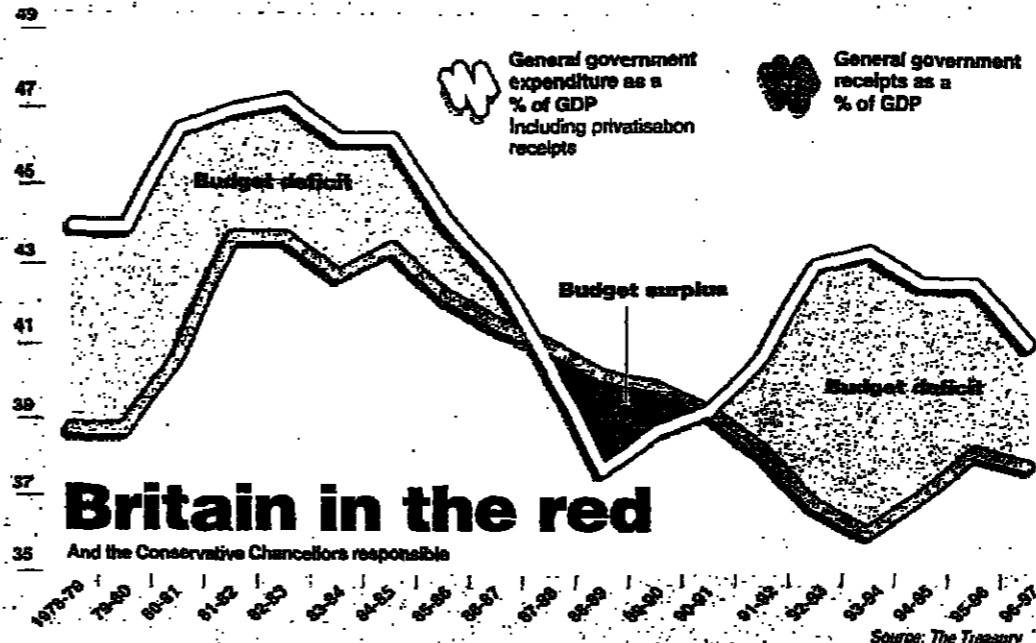
Calling car Y

Mary

io verse



Lord Howe 1779-83 Lord Lawson 1983-89 John Major 1989-90 Norman Lamont 1990-93



Britain in the red

And the Conservative Chancellors responsible



Kenneth Clarke 1993-

ELECTION BATTLEGROUND/Budgetary planning is set to be a key campaign issue

Flights of fancy to tax voters' credulity

Larry Elliott The Guardian's Economics Editor bemoans the sterility of the debate about fiscal policy

ARE you ready for the great Dutch auction over tax? You'd better be. The next six months are going to be a head-to-head struggle between Kenneth Clarke's 20p basic rate and Gordon Brown's 10p starting rate. After 17 years in power, the Conservatives have managed to bring the debate about fiscal policy down to this level. And, frankly, it's depressing, not to say absurd — the equivalent of people fantasising about what they will do when they win the lottery. Yet every cloud has a silver lining. One side effect of this endless wrangle about tax is that there will be an overdue reassessment of fiscal policy. For too long, the idea that Governments can regulate the economy through tax and spending decisions has been dismissed as a Keynesian conceit. But, fiscal policy does have an impact. It mattered in the late 1980s, when Nigel Lawson's tax cuts helped send the economy into a vortex of over-consumption and it mattered when Norman Lamont rediscovered the joys of counter-cyclical tax breaks during the recession in 1991. The 217 billion of tax increases in the two 1993 budgets squeezed demand, even though the fiscal retrenchment was modest in relation to the post-Black Wednesday monetary easing. Primarily, the Lamont-Clarke increases kept the brake on consumer spending, allowing economic growth to be better balanced. This is an old lesson. Labour's post-war macroeconomic strategy under first Hugh Dalton and then Stafford Cripps relied on the use of physical controls and fiscal policy to keep the lid on consumption, thereby allowing

base rates between 1945 and 1951 to be pegged at 2 per cent. The policy mix was right then, and it is right now. Britain is nearing the end of its fifth year of growth, yet the budget deficit will still be around 5 per cent of gross domestic product and tax cuts next month can be justified only by reductions in spending. Whether these will actually be delivered remains to be seen. The Prime Minister's pledge of an extra 25 billion to the National Health Service suggests otherwise. Mr Clarke is doubtless aware of the risks of a looser fiscal policy. It would have an impact on long rates by fostering the belief in the City that the authorities would at some point inflate away the value of the debt. By stimulating consumption, fiscal easing would certainly put pressure on short rates as well. Among some on the left there is a fond belief that there is no problem with this, because it is what Keynes would have done. But Keynes was always insistent that governments should run budget surpluses in good times in order to provide the leverage for public investment when the going got rough. Nor did his model allow for Britain's endemic post-war balance of payments constraint, occasioned by its particular fondness to import.

ANY doubts that the tight fiscal-loose monetary mix would be better off under Labour's proposals for a 10 per cent starting rate than they would be with Mr Clarke's 20p basic rate. Moreover, the Conservatives seem to be obsessed with abolishing capital gains tax and inheritance tax, which moves, in the absence of a wholly im-

probable trickle-down effect induced by a surge in entrepreneurial activity, would benefit only the rich. But, as the Green Budget shows, the really progressive move would be for Labour to channel any leeway for tax reductions into cutting VAT, which would help the bottom five deciles more than either a 20 per cent basic rate or a 10p lower band. For the poorest three deciles, the difference would be substantial. This was once taken as read. VAT is a regressive tax because it hits the poor hardest; income tax is progressive because it hits the rich hardest. To be fair to Mr Brown, a stated priority for a first Labour Budget — if it can be afforded, naturally — would be to cut VAT on domestic fuel and power to 5 per cent. It



for things we want health, education, pensions. There is little sign that we are ever going to demand less of these things; on the contrary, we want ever more. So how do we square this circle? Andrew Dilnot, the director of the IFS, has made few friends at Westminster for saying that we can't — un-

It's Ken Clarke's 20p basic rate against Gordon Brown's 10p start-up. It's depressing. It's absurd. It's an illusion

less we believe in the voodoo economics of the Laffer curve or return magically to the social inclusiveness and full employment of yesteryear. Mr Dilnot is right. In the rest of Europe, the cost of a station, 40 miles from Disneyland, and allowing the makers of the children's programme to patent the words "to boldly go". Arthur Ransome, a superior writer for children, has one of his characters raise the question of whether anyone owns the North Pole. Probably, replies a gloomy adult. Everything belongs to someone nowadays. Too true, old son.

Writing exclusively for the Guardian, Britain's new Nobel economics prize winner, James Mirrlees, right, says that Middle England can shoulder a bigger tax burden — whatever the politicians claim

Putting the bite on the Tory heartland

EVERYONE knows death and taxes cannot be escaped. Look at it another way: we all have taxes in common. This does not mean that we each pay exactly the same taxes, but that the same tax rules apply to all of us. This sounds like a simple commonsense observation. In fact, it is the key to understanding and describing what economic policy can achieve. Setting a tax system amounts to choosing two income distributions: incomes before tax and incomes after tax. A country with high marginal tax rates on income has a much more equal distribution of incomes after tax — because the state takes more from the rich to give to the poor — than of incomes before tax. It might be thought that we should only care about the distribution of after-tax incomes. Wrong. To get a high before-tax income, most people have to work pretty hard, and beyond a point harder work is no longer worth it. So the original distribution of incomes is influenced by the incentives and disincentives built into a tax system; just how much harder my more able or committed neighbour works depends on how much of the extra cash he keeps. To answer the question, what is the best tax system? you first have to try and describe the range of possible income distributions. It turns out that the original observation that we should only care about the distribution of after-tax incomes is wrong. In one case, which I then supposed to be quite realistic, the marginal tax rate — for all taxes, so including VAT and local taxes as well as income tax — on high incomes was just 20 per cent, a result which is now widely quoted. Nowadays, we recognise that the picture of the economy one should use is much more complicated, allowing for different tax treatment according to age, family structure, and so on. We have not got far enough in working out the implications, but it seems that total tax rates in the centre of the income distribution could well be as much as 50 per cent just in income taxes. But the theories I have seen

Total tax rates in the centre could well be as much as 50 per cent

that a substantial proportion of the population would rather not work. Ridiculous? No, I do not think so; the result was correct, for the model, but the model was just a test run, and had an unrealistically wide before-tax income distribution. In this model, that meant widely unequal abilities. The main reason for this first, surprising, finding was that the assumed relative productivity of the people at the bottom was so low that their chances of earning a decent income were also very slim. That meant substantial resources were required in the model to support their incomes. To raise the money, working on are not intended just to lead to some calculations of tax rates. They also exemplify a fundamental relationship among economic agents, which we now call "asymmetric information". In the tax model, people know their own capabilities. The government knows the distribution of these capabilities within the population as a whole, but does not know what any particular individual is capable of. The same can be said about an employer's knowledge of an employee — and pay systems are devised to provide incentives. Asymmetric information has been familiar to actuaries for a long time: in insurance they talk about adverse selection, when people take out insurance because they know they are likely to need it. An employer might take out unemployment insurance because of rumours of a redundancy programme, which have not reached the ears of the insurer. And the story does not stop there. There are other possible relationships between the employer and the worker. The most obvious is when no-one knows how much effort is required for a given contribution to production. So the employer cannot tell just how hard the employee worked simply by looking at his output — the worker could be a workaholic duncer or a lazy genius and get the same results — and so (in theory, and increasingly in practice) has to select a clever pay system to provide the right incentives. In these cases, the economic model suggest an interesting optimal pay schedule: sometimes the strongest pay incentives should be given to high and low incomes, rather than intermediate ones. The effect of take-home pay on work incentives seems higher for the boss and the apprentice than for the middle manager. In the tax case, that would mean the highest marginal tax rates would be in the middle rather than the top. But this is only one part of what is becoming an ever more complicated economics story. And it is clearly not a vote winner. James Mirrlees is Professor of Political Economy at the University of Cambridge. Copyright Reserved



the previous giveaways as well as mistakes which climaxed on Black Wednesday in September 1992 when sterling crashed out of the ERM. He was also responsible for the controversial 1991 measure which raised VAT to 17.5 per cent to pay for refunds on the unpopular poll tax. Most other budgets that have fallen just after a general election or in the middle of the party political cycle have been unmemorable, with the exception of the Conservatives' 1979 budget. Mr Howe celebrated the Conservatives' election victory with a sizeable cut in the base rate of income tax from 30 per cent to 24 per cent, partly paid for by a doubling of VAT.

History likely to repeat itself

Mr Howe reversed some of the income tax giveaways in 1981, freezing the personal allowance in cash terms which effectively cut the real value as Britain was in recession. In what could be the Conservatives' final budget, Kenneth Clarke's repeated assurance that he will only cut taxes if the economy can stand it, have won little credence with City analysts and economic think-tanks. Although he set out to establish himself as a cautious chancellor in November 1993 when he either froze or restricted the main tax breaks, he undermined this image to an extent last year when he cut the base rate to 24p despite the fact that public finances were heading deeper into the red. Given the charge levelled by the Labour Party that the Conservatives have investigated 22 tax rises since they came to power, it would be surprising if the coming budget failed to deliver voter-worshipping cuts.

If it exists, you can bet that someone owns it

Worm's eye Dan Atkinson

TRICK question of the week: the last entity to be nationalised in this country was (a) Johnson Matthey Bankers in 1984 (b) the ad-outfit Transmark in 1979 (c) the London Fire Brigade, in the late 1980s? The answer is... none of them. The public sector's last gulp was last year, and the industry in question, in a Christmas vein, was five gold rings, the symbol of the Olympic Games.

Woe betide anyone using the rings on merchandise without permission: they are to the modern public sector what all those train carriages and nuclear power stations were in days past. You doubt symbols, emblems, logos and the like are the commanding heights of the virtual-reality economy? You ought to have been at Wembley last week for England's wobbly performance against Poland. Should you have spent half-time trying to take your mind off the prospect of a Polish equaliser, you may have flipped through

the small print in your programme and discovered that not only is Coca-Cola a registered trade mark (fair do; who but a rotter would try to pass off his own sugary water as the real thing?) but that the "dynamic ribbon device" is similarly protected. Let there be any doubt, the "dynamic ribbon device" is not something that makes typewriters type more quickly, nor the latest hat-decoration for Royal Ascot. It is in fact merely those squiggly lines that accompany the Coca-Cola name (more detailed description of the ribbons could land us all in trouble

under the tough new copyright laws). Rum drinkers have long been able to chortle at Baccardi's solemn declaration on every bottle that the "bat device" is a protected symbol, but there was always the possibility that this was either an over-enthusiastic application of the Wildlife and Countryside Act or a by-product of too much West Indian sunshine. It seems we did the rum boys a dis-service. Big business, having apparently run out of land, minerals, food and air routes to claim is now demanding title to mere shapes, symbols and

figments of someone's imagination. As ever, the US has led the way, with laws preventing garage owners from stating without permission even the objective fact that their station, 40 miles from Disneyland, and allowing the makers of the children's programme to patent the words "to boldly go". Arthur Ransome, a superior writer for children, has one of his characters raise the question of whether anyone owns the North Pole. Probably, replies a gloomy adult. Everything belongs to someone nowadays. Too true, old son.

Miracle cure

Emily Sheffield

Cycling
Belgian flat out to victory on the hills

William Fotheringham in Lugano

JOHAN MUSEUW, a week after declaring his intention of retiring from competition, reclaimed his place as cycling's top one-day rider by winning the world championship road race here yesterday on his 31st birthday.

Whenever the going gets tough Museuw, a former garage mechanic, threatens to return to wielding an oily rag for his father but so far his threats have always been followed by a major victory which has led him to rethink.

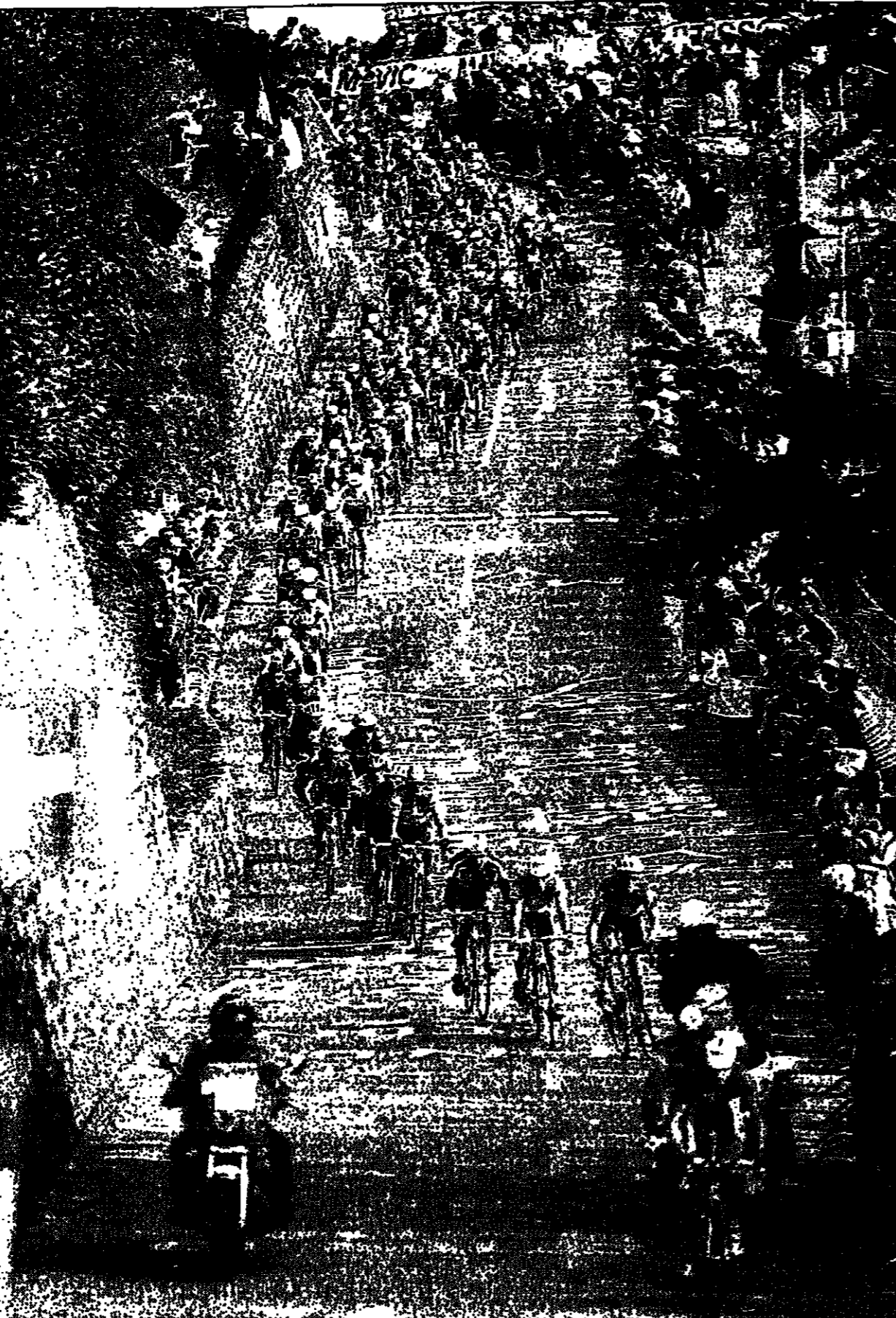
The Belgian is the current leader of the World Cup, a season-long competition which includes all the sport's legendary one-day Classics. He has built a reputation as a mountain specialist with a preference for the flat, windy roads of the Franco-Belgian border, where he has won cobbled Classics such as Paris-Roubaix and the Tour of Flanders.

Although last year Museuw figured in some of the hillier Classics on his way to taking his first victory in the World Cup, he was not listed among the favourites for yesterday's title. This was one of the most mountainous world championship courses for many years, featuring the legendary climb of the Crespera, which took a place in cycling history in 1953 when the Italian Campionissimo Champion of Champions Fausto Coppi won the world title after attacking on its slopes.

Museuw's victory was a let down for the 50,000 spectators, many of whom had flocked across the border from northern Italy. The gold medal was expected to go to the Italian national squad - or a Swiss mountain specialist such as Mauro Gianetti who finished fourth in last year's title race.

The Italian tifosi were packed 15-20 on the circuit's two climbs, headed with banners, posters and even framed pictures of the late, great Coppi, and created a wall of sound whenever the peloton passed.

However, there was wild celebration among the home fans when Gianetti -



Snaking along... the peloton speeds up on the road to Canobbio over one of the most mountainous courses for years

a native of the Canton of Ticino which has hosted these world championships - escaped from the lead group with 16 miles remaining to the finish. With only Museuw for company, and three vicious hills to climb, the odds were firmly on the Swiss.

For all that he was the best climber in the race, Gianetti still could not get rid of the Belgian, who can sprint as well as the Swiss can climb. After the pair

had watched each other like hawks for the final two flat kilometres, through the town of Lugano, the final metres were a formalist for Museuw, who in his early years had a reputation as one of cycling's fastest finishers.

Just behind in third was Michele Bartoli of Italy, another one-day Classic specialist, who was bitterly disappointed that the Azurri had left it too late before beginning the pursuit

of Museuw and Gianetti. Bartoli outspurred another man of the future Axel Merckx, hitherto best known for being the off-spring of Eddy, the greatest cyclist the world has ever seen.

Britain's Olympic bronze medalist Max Sciandri missed some of his own fans from his home in Tuscany but, in spite of their banners and encouragement on the Crespera, he was never up to the pace

and finished a mortified 45th. "I was on a really bad day. My legs would not respond when the pace began to increase."

Alongside the Anglo-Italian for the first half of the race was his 36-year-old do-mestique Sean Yates, riding his final event in Europe before he retires after a 15-year professional career which has included a stage win of the Tour de France and a day in the yellow jersey.

Racing

Grand total of four for Revoque

Graham Rock

PETER Chapple-Hyam swept aside memories of recent reverses at Longchamp yesterday when Revoque won the Group One Grand Critérium.

Without being hard ridden, the colt drew clear to beat Critique Head's Majorien by two lengths, with John Gosden's King Sound four lengths away third.

"It was always going easily," reported John Reid, who pushed out the winner with hands and heels. "When I pulled him out to quicken, the response was immediate."

Unbeaten in four races, Revoque will now retire for the season and be prepared for the 2,000 Guineas. "Surely he's the best two-year-old in Europe," the trainer suggested.

"When this horse gets into top gear it's all done with a little way to go. He's the best juvenile he had handled. Chapple-Hyam nominated Rodrigo de Triano as possibly superior. "Revoque doesn't have quite the same acceleration but make no mistake, he's a really good horse," he added.

Bookmakers, too, were impressed. Both Ladbrokes and Hill's cut Revoque from 10-1

for the 2,000 Guineas. Ladbrokes 3-1 bettering Hill's revised offer by a point; Bah-hare remains favourite at 5-1 with both firms.

Yesterday Willie Carson confirmed that he intends to resume riding next season when, presumably, he will renew his partnership with Sheikh Hamdan's Champagne Stakes winner.

King Sound finished a respectable third for John Gosden. "The form of the race looked good to me," he said. "My horse will be better over further next year."

The Newmarket trainer had an afternoon to remember at San Siro, Milan, where Shantou led a British clean sweep in the Group One Premio del Jockey Club and Leap For Joy defeated the English raiders Brave Edge and Hever Golf Rose in the Premio Omenoni.

Both were ridden by Frankie Dettori, who had gone a little way to reconquer bookmakers for his seventh time last month when he finished unplaced on all of his mounts at Ascot on Saturday.

"Shantou was a better horse here than when winning the St Leger," Dettori said after leading under Richard Dunwoody having made much of the running. Ten of the 21 starters managed to complete the unique test of stamina.

Last year's hero Its A Ship was a distant underdog under Richard Dunwoody having made much of the running. Ten of the 21 starters managed to complete the unique test of stamina.

lengths away. Swinburn said he had been hopeful when leading by a couple of lengths' two furlongs out on Saturday, but had not been able to respond to the winner's finishing surge. "I like Richard Quinn thought the going had been too dead for Strategic Choice."

Gosden's assistant, William Balding, suggested Shantou might run again in the Prix Royal-Oak at Longchamp on Sunday week.

Stratton Abbey set a post-war British record for the most races won by a filly or mare when recording her 23rd success in a Listed sprint event in Munich yesterday. She was ridden by Michael Roberts. Her win was nothing less than a triumph for the 11th win on Mark Johnston's seven-year-old.

The one disappointment on a glittering weekend for the British came in the Velka Pardubicka, the Czech Republic's Grand National. A well-trained Cipske proved too strong for Irish Stump, who finished runner-up for Norman Williamson, four and a half lengths behind the winner.

Last year's hero Its A Ship was a distant underdog under Richard Dunwoody having made much of the running. Ten of the 21 starters managed to complete the unique test of stamina.

Last year's hero Its A Ship was a distant underdog under Richard Dunwoody having made much of the running. Ten of the 21 starters managed to complete the unique test of stamina.

Last year's hero Its A Ship was a distant underdog under Richard Dunwoody having made much of the running. Ten of the 21 starters managed to complete the unique test of stamina.

Leicester runners and riders with form guide for eight races

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

2.30 BADEN APPRENTICE MAIDEN STAKES (OV) 5YO 7M 25,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

4.00 BABBIT HANDICAP 5YO 7M 25,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

5.00 NEW NAME NATION FILLIES STAKES 5YO 7M 25,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

WELL DOB LAD, ridden over 20,000, headed inside last, 2nd of 12 in Reading (Salisbury 6, Gd-Fm)

2.00 GULLUCK FILLIES HANDICAP (PNS) 4 Years 1m 25,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

3.00 DORSETSHIRE APPRENTICE MAIDEN STAKES (OV) 5YO 7M 25,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

4.30 NEWBORN CONDITIONS STAKES 5YO 7M 25,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

5.15 CO-OPERATIVE BANK PLC CONDITIONAL JOCKEY BARELY ONLY 16CP HURDLE 2m 11,250

Table with 2 columns: Race number and name, and list of runners with their odds and jockey names.

Culloty blow

JIM Culloty, last season's champion amateur jumps jockey, faces a lengthy spell on the sidelines following an operation on his right ankle which he fractured in a fall at Huntington last Friday.

Newton Abbot National Hunt card

Large table containing multiple race cards for Newton Abbot National Hunt, including race numbers, names, and lists of runners with odds and jockey names.



July 10 1996

Golf

Dunhill win for quiet Americans

David Davies hears a Swede told off for breach of etiquette at St Andrews

PHIL MICKELSON'S flare-up with Jarmo Sandelin of Sweden betrayed more than a flutter of American nerves yesterday before the United States went on to win the Dunhill Cup for only the third time in 12 years.

Semi-final wins by Mark O'Meara and Steve Stricker had steered the United States past Sweden's Hedblom and Sjoland, but Mickelson and Sandelin's match broke that orderly pattern. They were all square at the 12th tee when the American, according to the Swede, said: "You should show me some respect and not behave like that."

Sandelin did not immediately understand what Mickelson was complaining about, but could not deny that whenever he holed a putt — and he had had four birdies at the point in question — he had been punching the air and celebrating in loud and, to impartial ears, obnoxious fashion.

Mickelson, who had been displaying traditional courtesy, congratulating his opponent with the customary "good shot" or "well played", was obviously becoming increasingly irritated. The final straw came on the 11th green, where Sandelin holed his putt, following it towards the hole as if with an imaginary machine gun. Asked by Sandelin what the problem was, the American replied: "This is a friendly game." To which Sandelin replied: "I know, but I want to win it."

Outside the clubhouse — where perhaps the original dialogue should have occurred — Mickelson later tried to explain why he had spoken out. "I believe competitions like the Ryder Cup, the Dunhill Cup and the Pres-

dent's Cup are wonderful events to promote sportsmanship and camaraderie internationally. I think our match could certainly have been conducted with a little more sportsmanship and I was disappointed it was not."

And so to the final, in which the Americans' slightly unexpected opponents were New Zealand. The hirsute and piratical-looking Frank Nobilo slashed his way past the US's Mark O'Meara but the remainder of his crew were cut down as Greg Turner and Grant Waite lost to Mickelson and Stricker respectively.

Nobilo, whose victims included Joe Ozaki and Greg Norman, had a very good week. He deserved it, having played in every edition of this event since it started in 1985, the only man to have done so. But Stricker had an even better one, not losing a match and proving far too much for Waite in yesterday afternoon's vital anchor role.

He was five under after 12 and the New Zealander was done for when he found the Road Hole bunker and could not get out first time.

The middle match turned on the 18th hole. Turner's putt tipped out from six feet to drop him a shot and send him back to level par, while Mickelson birdied from two feet to open a three-stroke gap that survived even the 17th.

The top-seeded Americans thus took first prize of £100,000 per man and the New Zealanders, seventh seeds, collected £50,000 each, a good reward for four days of golf. All the teams present will be reassured by the sponsors' confirmation that this glorified exhibition will continue, and remain at St Andrews, for the next three years at least.



Final fling ... Grant Waite drives at the second play-off hole, where he beat South Africa's Wayne Westner to put New Zealand into yesterday's Dunhill Cup final DAVID CANNON

Kite crosses Atlantic to touch previous heights

Michael Britten in Madrid on the US captain's surprise win

TOM KITE's Ryder Cup reconnaissance turned into a triumphant trip when he snatched the Old Pro-Am title from the clutches of Seve Ballesteros and Angel Cabrera here yesterday.

The Texan, charged with recovering the Ryder Cup for the US at Valderrama in

September, birdied the final hole at La Moraleja for a closing 70 and a 15-under-par total of 273, one ahead of the Argentinian and three ahead of Ballesteros, who had a best-of-the-day 69.

Expectations were low when Kite arrived with the prime purpose of inspect-

ing the 1997 Ryder Cup course and its facilities. But the trip produced the 46-year-old's first victory since the 1993 Los Angeles Open and only his second in Europe, following the 1990 European Open, and it could not have arrived at a more opportune moment. Kite's third-round 64 cou-

pled with a passionate display by Ballesteros stirred the competitive juices, and when the American was handed a winning opportunity by Cabrera's failure to sink six-foot putts on the last two greens, he seized it.

The contest between the Ryder Cup captains was the centre piece of an enthralling day that Ballesteros began four shots behind Kite and five behind Cabrera.

Urged on by a gallery anticipating the first Ballesteros victory since his Spanish Open success in the capital 18 months ago, he went out in 33 in a buffeting wind that later brought heavy rain, but a

risky attempt to eagle the 566-yard 11th by taking a short cut via the 16th fairway brought about his downfall.

Instead of an easy approach he had to pick his ball out of the pond guarding the 16th green and could manage only a par five and, though he birdied the 12th, three putts on the 14th did for him.

When Kite and Cabrera both birdied the 11th via the orthodox route and remained level at 14 under after 15 holes, they had the tournament to themselves.

The Argentinian, a newcomer to Europe this season, regained his overnight advantage by holing from

10 feet on the next green, but then his nerve and his putter failed him.

He allowed the American to draw level by three-putting the short 17th and was unable to respond when Kite moved in for the kill. Hitting a sand wedge from 10 yards to within a foot for the simplest of winning putts after Cabrera again failed from six feet.

"This is a tremendous boost for me," said Kite. "When you have been without a win for more than three years the doubts begin to set in. It gives me the impetus I am looking for to have a good season in 1997 and make the American Ryder Cup team."

Monday October 14
I of voque
Cricket
Australia tumbled by Kumble
S

"I WANT TO HAVE A ONE 2 ONE. WHERE DO I START?"

Well why not ring our freephone information line?
It's open 24 hours a day and we'll advise you on which mobile phone and which type of service package is best for you. Simply call us on 0500 500 121.

one 2 one

0500 500 121
the people to have a one 2 one with

Five pages of sport

Golf Cloud over the USA as they win the Dunhill Cup 13

Soccer Ferguson and United prepare for Asia Minor 15

SportExtra



Master Hill wins a place in history

The road to the title

- 1 Australia March 10** Won by 22 secs from Villeneuve.
- 2 Brazil March 31** Won by 17.9 secs ahead of Alesi. Villeneuve spun off.
- 3 Argentina April 7** Won by 10 secs ahead of Villeneuve.
- 4 European April 28** Fourth place. Defeat still Villeneuve's win for first time.
- 5 San Marino May 5** Won by 42 secs from Schumacher. Villeneuve retires after start.
- 6 Monaco May 19** Retired (oil pump failure after 48 laps). Points won Villeneuve also retired after accident.
- 7 Spain June 2** Spun off after 18 laps in rain. Schumacher won, Villeneuve third.
- 8 Canada June 16** Won by four secs. Villeneuve second.
- 9 France June 30** Won by eight secs. Villeneuve second.
- 10 Britain July 14** Retired (loose wheel after 25 laps). Villeneuve won.
- 11 Germany July 28** Won by 11.4 secs. Alesi second. Villeneuve third.
- 12 Hungary August 11** Second (after slow start) to Villeneuve.
- 13 Belgium August 25** Fifth (after poor start). Schumacher wins from Villeneuve.
- 14 Italy September 8** Spun off, five laps. Schumacher won. Villeneuve second.
- 15 Portugal September 22** Second. Villeneuve won. Hill leads by nine points going into final race.
- 16 Japan October 13** Hill leads from the start to take the title by 19 points.

PHOTOGRAPH: PASCAL RONDEAU

Briton leads all the way in Japan to claim F1 title

Alan Henry at Suzuka

BRITISH bookmakers rate Damon Hill a 100-1 chance to retain the Formula One title he took in such mastery fashion yesterday, but nothing could cloud the massive sense of mission accomplished with which he left the Williams paddock here in Japan after what was surely both his last and his greatest grand-prix victory.

The Briton assured himself of a place in motor-sport history alongside his late father Graham with a dominant performance that was as important for his personal prestige as a racing driver as it was in making him F1's first champion son of a champion father.

"The race went like clockwork, like a full-distance test session really — an ordinary day but a perfect ending to one," he said afterwards.

Hill could hardly have improved on his display before the 37th lap when his teammate and only rival Jacques Villeneuve had to retire, but thereafter his focus was su-

plete the opening lap in sixth place. Hill surged away in the lead, never to be headed even during his two routine refuelling stops throughout the 53-lap race.

Hill pressed on relentlessly after Villeneuve had spun off when a loose rear wheel came adrift, determined to depart Williams in style as a winner.

"I never took the view that this championship was going to be a walkover," he said. "Right from the start I knew it was going to be close and I had to take as much of an advantage as I could before Jacques got up to speed and got into the swing of things."

"But it could have gone the other way, Jacques could have been champion and I would have been feeling pretty sick. But I know Jacques is going to get another year and he's still very young and quick. To be honest, it had to be this year for me and I'm really, really delighted."

"Jacques was a match for me by the end of the season but my motivation was to keep ahead and win the championship. I had the added pressure of having to finish races, whereas he was coming from behind and could take more risks."

Hill's candid acknowledgement that it was now or never for him in championship terms reflects an acceptance that the future will be an uphill struggle and that the F1 baton may have passed to a younger generation.

Next year Michael Schumacher will be 14

The end... Damon Hill salutes Suzuka's cheers after becoming the first champion son of a champion father

PHOTOGRAPH: PASCAL RONDEAU

Guardian Crossword No 20,783

Set by Crispa

Across

- 1 Doctor and nurse go off together (7)
- 5 Endorsing the motion in a note (7)
- 9 Dismay at a Northerner's retirement (5)
- 10 Kind of bread that fully satisfies the appetite (9)
- 11 Limit studies with tutor (9)
- 12 Nick is not going to church (5)
- 13 Open tarts properly cooked (5)
- 15 Carried off by Stevenson (9)
- 16 Spoil a great comeback and this will cause an outburst (9)
- 19 Investing money in sound equipment for Lords (5)
- 21 Mean to stop (5)
- 23 Made a speech — a challenge indeed! (9)

Down

- 1 Making a scene's wrong in spirited meetings (7)
- 2 Conscience-stricken about jailed social worker (9)
- 3 Take in around a hundred and fifty to see exhibition (5)
- 4 Course finding much favour with businessmen? (9)
- 5 A club that may well cause a stir (5)
- 6 Having an area of grass-land, pledge to raise fruit (9)
- 7 Getting into Oriental exercise can be awkward (5)

WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 20,776

This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are Lella and Owen Ward of Corsham Down, Bath, A M Pearson, of Fordingbury, Perth, Tim Smalton of Reading, Patricia Thorpe of Sudbury, and J B Shaw of Old Trafford.

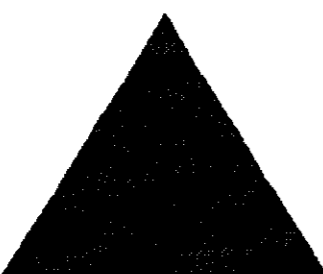
- 8 Party held for a knight (7)
- 14 Places of work — orders are sent in (9)
- 16 Low-priced muck many make a pile from (4-5)
- 17 The average sum is of the utmost importance (9)
- 18 He's resolved to keep fish in an animal enclosure (7)
- 20 Sort of ladders made by a real craftsman (7)
- 22 Flora's bovine insolence (2-3)
- 23 Consolidated, and that's not very sensible (5)
- 24 Exceptional care should be taken over a palm (5)

Solution tomorrow

27 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0800 338 2228. Calls cost 50p per minute Mon-Fri, 8am-8pm, and 45p per minute at all other times. Service supplied by ATS.



Hump bridge.



Leave the bridge well alone.



Bass BEST SELLING PREMIUM CASK ALE SINCE 1777

Mickey was in the position of so many major stars, whose actual visibility on screen eventually comes to undermine their legendary status: to remain a god, he had to disappear.

Jonathan Romney on the return of the Mouse

Profile, G2 page 10

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.